UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT	Γ
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	

In re:	)	Chapter 11
TOWER AUTOMOTIVE, INC., et al., 1	)	Case No. 05-10578 (ALG)
	)	(Jointly Administered)

# DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR THE FIRST AMENDED JOINT PLAN OF TOWER AUTOMOTIVE, INC. AND ITS DEBTOR SUBSIDIARIES UNDER CHAPTER 11 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- Deadline by which Ballots and Master Ballots must be received: July 6, 2007, at 4:00 p.m. (E.T.)
- Deadline by which to file and serve objections to Confirmation of the Plan: July 6, 2007, at 4:00 p.m. (E.T.)
- Distribution Record Date: July 6, 2007
- Hearing on Confirmation of the Plan: July 11, 2007, at 11:00 a.m. (E.T.)

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Dated: June 6, 2007

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The Debtors in these proceedings are Tower Automotive, Inc. ("Tower") and certain of Tower's direct and indirect subsidiaries: Algoods, USA, Inc.; R.J. Tower Corporation ("R.J. Tower"); Tower Automotive Bardstown, Inc.; Tower Automotive Bowling Green, LLC; Tower Automotive Chicago, LLC; Tower Automotive Finance, Inc.; Tower Automotive Granite City, LLC; Tower Automotive Granite City Services, LLC; Tower Automotive International, Inc.; Tower Automotive International Holdings, Inc.; Tower Automotive Lansing, LLC; Tower Automotive Madison, LLC; Tower Automotive Michigan, LLC; Tower Automotive Milwaukee, LLC; Tower Automotive Plymouth, Inc.; Tower Automotive Products Company, Inc.; Tower Automotive Receivables Company, Inc.; Tower Automotive Services and Technology, LLC; Tower Automotive, s.r.o.; Tower Automotive Technology, Inc.; Tower Automotive Technology, Inc.; Tower Automotive Tool, LLC; Tower Services, Inc.; and Trylon Corporation (collectively, the "Debtors" or "Tower").

THE VOTING DEADLINE TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN IS JULY 6, 2007, UNLESS THE DEBTORS EXTEND THE DEADLINE PRIOR TO THE VOTING DEADLINE. TO BE COUNTED, THE VOTING AGENT MUST RECEIVE YOUR BALLOT BEFORE THE VOTING DEADLINE.

THE DEBTORS PROVIDE NO ASSURANCE THAT THE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, INCLUDING ANY EXHIBITS TO THE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, THAT IS ULTIMATELY APPROVED IN THE CHAPTER 11 CASES (1) WILL CONTAIN ANY OF THE TERMS IN THE CURRENT DOCUMENT OR (2) WILL NOT CONTAIN DIFFERENT, ADDITIONAL, MATERIAL TERMS THAT DO NOT APPEAR IN THE CURRENT DOCUMENT. THEREFORE, MAKING INVESTMENT DECISIONS BASED UPON THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, THE PLAN AND THE EXHIBITS IS *HIGHLY SPECULATIVE*, AND THE DOCUMENTS SHOULD NOT BE RELIED UPON IN MAKING SUCH INVESTMENT DECISIONS WITH RESPECT TO (1) THE DEBTORS OR (2) ANY OTHER PARTIES THAT MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE CHAPTER 11 CASES.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Page</u>

I.	INTRODUCTION				
	A.	PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF THE PLAN	4		
	B.	OVERVIEW OF CHAPTER 11	4		
	C.	SUMMARY OF CLASSIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF ALLOWED CLAIMS			
		AND EQUITY INTERESTS UNDER THE PLAN	4		
	D.	PARTIES ENTITLED TO VOTE ON THE PLAN			
	E.	SOLICITATION PACKAGE	6		
	F.	VOTING INSTRUCTIONS	6		
	G.	THE CONFIRMATION HEARING	8		
	H.	CONFIRMING AND CONSUMMATING THE PLAN	9		
II.	BAC	KGROUND			
	A.	OVERVIEW OF TOWER'S BUSINESS	11		
	B.	THE DEBTORS' CORPORATE AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE	12		
III.	СНА	PTER 11 CASES			
	A.	OVERVIEW EVENTS LEADING TO THE CHAPTER 11 CASES	16		
	B.	APPOINTMENT OF THE CREDITORS COMMITTEE			
	C.	ADMINISTRATION OF THE CHAPTER 11 CASES			
	D.	1113/1114 PROCESS			
	E.	CLAIMS BAR DATE AND CLAIMS ESTIMATION			
	F.	SUBSTANTIVE CONSOLIDATION			
	G.	ATTEMPTS TO REORGANIZE			
	Н.	THE MARKETING AND SALE PROCESS			
IV.	SUM	MARY OF THE JOINT PLAN	29		
- ' '	A.	INTRODUCTION			
	В.	ADMINISTRATIVE AND PRIORITY TAX CLAIMS			
	C.	CLASSIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF CLASSIFIED CLAIMS AND EQUITY	2)		
	C.	INTERESTS			
	D.	ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF THE PLAN	39		
	E.	MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN			
	F.	TREATMENT OF EXECUTORY CONTRACTS AND UNEXPIRED LEASES	42		
	G.	PROVISIONS GOVERNING DISTRIBUTIONS			
	H.	THE POST-CONSUMMATION TRUST; THE POST-CONSUMMATION TRUST			
		PLAN ADMINISTRATOR	47		
	I.	THE UNSECURED CREDITORS TRUST; THE UNSECURED TRUST PLAN			
		ADMINISTRATOR	49		
	J.	PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING DISPUTED, CONTINGENT AND			
	•	UNLIQUIDATED CLAIMS OR EQUITY INTERESTS	51		
	K.	SUBSTANTIVE CONSOLIDATION			
	L.	CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO CONFIRMATION AND CONSUMMATION OF	52		
	ъ.	THE PLAN	53		
	M.	SETTLEMENT, RELEASE, INJUNCTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS			
	N.	RETENTION OF JURISDICTION			
	O.	MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS			
v.	THE	SOLICITATION; VOTING PROCEDURES	63		
••	A.	THE SOLICITATION PACKAGE	63		
	В.	VOTING INSTRUCTIONS			
	C.	VOTING TABULATION			
	Ŭ.	TO 1110 1/10 UL/11101 (			

VI.	CON	FIRMATION PROCEDURES	67
	A.	THE CONFIRMATION HEARING	67
	B.	STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFIRMATION OF THE PLAN	68
	C.	RISK FACTORS	71
	D.	IDENTITY OF PERSONS TO CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION	71
	E.	DISCLAIMER	71
VII.		N-RELATED RISK FACTORS AND ALTERNATIVES TO CONFIRMING AND	
	CON	SUMMATING THE PLAN	
	A.	GENERAL	
	В.	CERTAIN BANKRUPTCY LAW CONSIDERATIONS	72
	C.	FACTORS AFFECTING THE POTENTIAL RECOVERIES OF HOLDERS OF	
		CLAIMS IN VOTING CLASSES	74
	D.	THE DEBTORS MAY BE UNABLE TO CLOSE THE SALE TRANSACTION	
	E.	THE BANKRUPTCY COURT MAY DECLINE TO MODIFY RETIREE BENEFITS	
	F.	FINANCIAL INFORMATION; DISCLAIMER	
	G.	FACTORS AFFECTING THE DEBTORS	74
	H.	CERTAIN TAX MATTERS	75
	I.	RISK THAT THE INFORMATION IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT MAY BE INACCURATE	75
	J.	LIQUIDATION UNDER CHAPTER 7	76
VIII.	CER	TAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES	76
	A.	CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THE HOLDERS OF	
	В.	CLAIMS AND EQUITY INTERESTSCERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES TO DEBTORS	/ /
	Б.	CERTAIN U.S. TEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES TO DEBTORS	60
IX.	GLC	OSSARY OF TERMS	81
X.	CON	ICLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION	95

05-10578-alg Doc 2742 Filed 06/06/07 Entered 06/06/07 18:57:27 Main Document Pg 5 of 101

# **EXHIBITS**

**Exhibit A** - The First Amended Joint Plan of Tower Automotive, Inc. and Its Debtor Subsidiaries

Under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code

**Exhibit B** - Marketing Protocol Order

**Exhibit C** - Liquidation Analysis

**Exhibit D** - Letter of the Debtors to Holders of Claims

**Exhibit E** - Asset Purchase Agreement With TA Acquisition Company, LLC

# I. INTRODUCTION

The Debtors submit this disclosure statement (the "Disclosure Statement"), pursuant to section 1125 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), to Holders of Claims and Equity Interests<sup>2</sup> in connection with: (i) the solicitation of votes to accept or reject the *First Amended Joint Plan of Tower Automotive, Inc. and Its Debtor Subsidiaries Under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code*, dated June 6, 2007, as the same may be amended from time to time (the "Plan"), which was filed by the Debtors with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Bankruptcy Court") on June 6, 2007, and (ii) the Confirmation Hearing, which is scheduled for July 11, 2007, commencing at 11:00 a.m., E.T. (the "Confirmation Hearing").<sup>3</sup> A copy of the Plan is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

# A GLOSSARY OF DEFINED TERMS UTILIZED IN THE PLAN AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IS SET FORTH IN ARTICLE IX OF THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF TOWER AUTOMOTIVE, INC. (THE "BOARD") RECOMMENDS THAT ALL CREDITORS ENTITLED TO VOTE SUBMIT A TIMELY BALLOT VOTING TO ACCEPT THE PLAN. THE BOARD AND THE RESPECTIVE BOARDS OF DIRECTORS AND MANAGERS OF THE DEBTORS HAVE APPROVED THE FILING AND SOLICITATION OF THE PLAN AND THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED THEREBY. THE BOARD BELIEVES THAT THE PLAN IS PREFERABLE TO ANY OF THE ALTERNATIVES DESCRIBED HEREIN BECAUSE: (I) IT PROVIDES FOR A LARGER DISTRIBUTION TO HOLDERS OF ALLOWED CLAIMS THAN WOULD OTHERWISE RESULT FROM A LIQUIDATION UNDER CHAPTER 7 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE; AND (II) IT PROVIDES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR GREATER DISTRIBUTION TO ALL HOLDERS OF CLAIMS JUNIOR TO CLAIMS AGAINST R.J. TOWER AND THE INTERNATIONAL HOLDING COMPANY DEBTORS THAN WOULD OTHERWISE BE AVAILABLE IF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE'S "ABSOLUTE PRIORITY" RULE WERE STRICTLY ENFORCED. THE "ABSOLUTE PRIORITY" RULE PROVIDES, IN PERTINENT PART, THAT SENIOR CLASSES OF CLAIMS MUST BE SATISFIED BEFORE JUNIOR CLASSES RECEIVE ANY DISTRIBUTION. IN ADDITION, ANY ALTERNATIVE OTHER THAN CONFIRMATION OF THE PLAN COULD RESULT IN EXTENSIVE DELAYS AND INCREASED ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES RESULTING IN SMALLER DISTRIBUTIONS TO THE HOLDERS OF ALLOWED CLAIMS. ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT D IS A LETTER FROM THE DEBTORS RECOMMENDING THAT ALL HOLDERS OF CLAIMS AGAINST THE DEBTORS WHO ARE ENTITLED TO VOTE ON THE PLAN, TIMELY SUBMIT BALLOTS TO ACCEPT THE PLAN.

#### MARKETING PROTOCOL

THE DEBTORS ARE PROPOSING THE SALE OF SUBSTANTIALLY ALL OF THEIR ASSETS WITH SUCH SALE PROCESS TO BE CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF THE MARKETING PROTOCOL, ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT B, WHICH ALLOWS FOR THE SOLICITATION OF COMPETING PROPOSALS AND, IF ONE OR MORE QUALIFIED PROPOSALS IS RECEIVED, AN AUCTION. PARAGRAPH 18 OF THE TERM SHEET, ATTACHED WITH THE MARKETING PROTOCOL, PROVIDES THAT THE COMMITTEE AGREES TO SUPPORT A PLAN OF REORGANIZATION IMPLEMENTING THE RESTRUCTURING TERM SHEET NEGOTIATED WITH PURCHASER, PROVIDED THAT THERE IS NO HIGHER AND BETTER OFFER FOR THE SALE OF THE ASSETS OF THE DEBTORS WHICH HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE DEBTORS AND THE

As set forth in this Disclosure Statement, and pursuant to the Disclosure Statement Order (as hereinafter defined), only the Core Group, all parties in interest on the 2002 List as of the Voting Record Date and all Holders of Claims in Classes 4, 5, 6 and 7 who are entitled to vote on the Plan will receive this Disclosure Statement. All other Holders of Claims and Equity Interests will receive a notice of the Disclosure Statement, which will provide details on how to procure copies of this Disclosure Statement.

Unless otherwise defined in this Disclosure Statement, all capitalized terms used but not defined in this Disclosure Statement shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Plan.

Pa 7 of 101

COMMITTEE, AND APPROVED BY THE BANKRUPTCY COURT. THE COMMITTEE ALSO URGES HOLDERS OF CLASS 4 INTERNATIONAL HOLDING COMPANY DEBTOR CLAIMS, CLASS 5 R.J. TOWER GENERAL UNSECURED CLAIMS, CLASS 6 5.75% CONVERTIBLE SENIOR NOTE CLAIMS AND CLASS 7 OTHER GENERAL UNSECURED CLAIMS TO VOTE TO ACCEPT THE PLAN AND TO EVIDENCE SUCH ACCEPTANCE BY TIMELY COMPLETING AND RETURNING THEIR BALLOTS.

THE DEBTORS ARE MAKING THE STATEMENTS AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AS OF THE DATE HEREOF, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED. HOLDERS OF CLAIMS REVIEWING THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT SHOULD NOT INFER THAT, AT THE TIME OF THEIR REVIEW, THE FACTS SET FORTH HEREIN HAVE NOT CHANGED SINCE THE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WAS FILED. HOLDERS OF CLAIMS ENTITLED TO VOTE TO ACCEPT THE PLAN MUST RELY ON THEIR OWN EVALUATION OF THE DEBTORS AND THEIR OWN ANALYSIS OF THE TERMS OF THE PLAN, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY RISK FACTORS CITED HEREIN, IN DECIDING WHETHER TO VOTE TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN.

THE DEBTORS URGE EACH HOLDER OF A CLAIM TO CONSULT WITH ITS OWN ADVISORS WITH RESPECT TO ANY SUCH LEGAL, FINANCIAL, SECURITIES, TAX OR BUSINESS ADVICE IN REVIEWING THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, THE PLAN AND EACH OF THE PROPOSED TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED THEREBY. FURTHERMORE, THE BANKRUPTCY COURT'S APPROVAL OF THE ADEQUACY OF DISCLOSURE CONTAINED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT DOES NOT CONSTITUTE THE BANKRUPTCY COURT'S APPROVAL OF THE MERITS OF THE PLAN.

MOREOVER, IT IS THE DEBTORS' POSITION THAT THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT DOES NOT CONSTITUTE, AND MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED AS, AN ADMISSION OF FACT, LIABILITY, STIPULATION OR WAIVER. RATHER, HOLDERS SHOULD CONSTRUE THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AS A STATEMENT MADE IN SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS RELATED TO CONTESTED MATTERS, ADVERSARY PROCEEDINGS, AND OTHER PENDING OR THREATENED LITIGATION OR ACTIONS.

SEE ARTICLE VII OF THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT ENTITLED "PLAN-RELATED RISK FACTORS AND ALTERNATIVES TO CONFIRMING AND CONSUMMATING THE PLAN" FOR A DISCUSSION OF VARIOUS FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN DECIDING WHETHER TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN.

THE DEBTORS HAVE NOT AUTHORIZED ANY PARTY TO GIVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT OR CONCERNING THE PLAN OTHER THAN THAT WHICH IS CONTAINED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT. THE DEBTORS HAVE NOT AUTHORIZED ANY REPRESENTATIONS CONCERNING THE DEBTORS OR THE VALUE OF THEIR PROPERTY OTHER THAN AS SET FORTH IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT.

THE DEBTORS' MANAGEMENT HAS REVIEWED THE FINANCIAL INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT. ALTHOUGH THE DEBTORS HAVE USED THEIR BEST EFFORTS TO ENSURE THE ACCURACY OF THIS FINANCIAL INFORMATION, THE FINANCIAL INFORMATION CONTAINED IN, OR INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE INTO, THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT, OTHER THAN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS INCLUDED IN THE DEBTORS' ANNUAL REPORT, HAS NOT BEEN AUDITED.

THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT SUMMARIZES CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE PLAN, CERTAIN OTHER DOCUMENTS AND CERTAIN FINANCIAL INFORMATION. THE DEBTORS BELIEVE THAT THESE SUMMARIES ARE FAIR AND ACCURATE; HOWEVER, YOU SHOULD READ THE PLAN IN ITS ENTIRETY. IN THE EVENT OF ANY INCONSISTENCY OR DISCREPANCY BETWEEN A DESCRIPTION CONTAINED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND THE TERMS AND PROVISIONS OF THE PLAN OR THE OTHER DOCUMENTS OR FINANCIAL INFORMATION TO BE INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE, THE PLAN SHALL GOVERN FOR ALL PURPOSES; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THE TERMS OF THE ASSET PURCHASE AGREEMENT

BETWEEN THE DEBTORS AND TA ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC SHALL GOVERN IN THE EVENT OF ANY INCONSISTENCY BETWEEN IT AND THE PLAN.

THE DEBTORS ARE PROVIDING THE INFORMATION IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT SOLELY FOR PURPOSES OF INFORMING HOLDERS OF CLAIMS ENTITLED TO VOTE TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN OR OBJECTING TO CONFIRMATION. NOTHING IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT MAY BE USED BY ANY PERSON FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE.

ALL EXHIBITS TO THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT ARE INCORPORATED INTO AND MADE A PART OF THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AS IF SET FORTH IN FULL HEREIN.

# SUBSTANTIVE CONSOLIDATION

The Plan constitutes a motion seeking entry of an order substantively consolidating certain of the Debtors as described in the Plan. In particular, the Plan contemplates and is predicated upon substantive consolidation of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors into a single entity. The Substantively Consolidated Debtors include:

- Algoods, USA, Inc.
- Tower Automotive Bardstown, Inc.
- Tower Automotive Bowling Green, LLC
- Tower Automotive Chicago, LLC
- Tower Automotive Finance, Inc.
- Tower Automotive Granite City, LLC
- Tower Automotive Granite City Services, LLC
- Tower Automotive International Yorozu Holdings, Inc.
- Tower Automotive Lansing, LLC; Tower Automotive Madison, LLC
- Tower Automotive Michigan, LLC
- Tower Automotive Milwaukee, LLC
- Tower Automotive Plymouth, Inc.
- Tower Automotive Products Company, Inc.
- Tower Automotive Receivables Company, Inc.
- Tower Automotive Services and Technology, LLC
- Tower Automotive, s.r.o.
- Tower Automotive Technology, Inc.
- Tower Automotive Technology Products, Inc.
- Tower Automotive Tool, LLC
- Tower Services, Inc.
- Trylon Corporation

The Plan additionally contemplates substantive consolidation of Tower Automotive International, Inc., and Tower Automotive International Holdings, Inc. into another entity (the International Holding Company Debtors). Each of these consolidations shall be done solely for purposes of all voting and distributions under the Plan. The Substantively Consolidated Debtors do not include Tower Automotive, Inc., or R.J. Tower or the International Holding Company Debtors. Entry of the Confirmation Order will constitute the approval, pursuant to section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, effective as of the Effective Date, of the substantive consolidation of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors, on the one hand, and the International Holding Company Debtors, on the other hand, solely for purposes of all voting and distributions under the Plan. For a more detailed discussion regarding the proposed substantive consolidation and the implications thereof, please refer to Articles III.F. and IV.C.2. hereof.

# A. PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF THE PLAN

The primary purpose of the Plan is to provide for the sale of substantially all of Tower's foreign and U.S. assets to TA Acquisition Company, LLC, an affiliate of Cerberus Capital Management, L.P. ("TA Affiliate") or a third party who submits an offer that is higher and better than the terms of the TA Acquisition Company, LLC Purchase Agreement (the "Sale Transaction"). Pursuant to the Marketing Protocol, as defined and more fully set forth in III.H below, and also attached hereto as Exhibit B, Tower continues an active sale and marketing process designed to generate bidding for and an auction of Tower's assets. As provided in the Marketing Protocol, Tower, in consultation with the Committee, will consider all proposals received, including proposals to acquire all of Tower's assets or segments of Tower's business. It is possible that TA Acquisition Company, LLC will not be selected as the successful bidder, and it is possible that the successful bidder may be one or more new bidders, or may be TA Acquisition Company, LLC, either on its own or in combination with one or more new bidders. In the case of any transaction resulting from such auction, all remaining assets will be liquidated and the proceeds distributed to the Debtors' creditors pursuant to the Plan.

Upon and after the Effective Date (defined below), the Plan provides for a distribution of cash to holders of claims entitled to distributions under the Plan. The Plan also provides for subsequent distributions of cash to holders of claims entitled to distributions under the Plan from the Post-Consummation Trust, as defined in Article IV below, and for distributions of cash to holders of claims entitled to distributions from the Unsecured Creditors Trust, as defined in Article IV below.

#### B. OVERVIEW OF CHAPTER 11

Chapter 11 is the principal business reorganization chapter of the Bankruptcy Code. In addition to permitting debtor rehabilitation, chapter 11 promotes equality of treatment for similarly situated creditors and similarly situated equity interest holders, subject to the priority of distributions prescribed by the Bankruptcy Code.

The commencement of a chapter 11 case creates an estate that comprises all of the legal and equitable interests of the debtor as of the bankruptcy commencement date. The Bankruptcy Code provides that the debtor may continue to operate its business and remain in possession of its property as a "debtor-in-possession."

Consummating a plan is the principal objective of a chapter 11 case. A plan may, as in this case, contemplate a liquidation of a debtor's assets. The Bankruptcy Court's confirmation of a plan binds the debtor, any person acquiring property under the plan, any creditor or equity interest holder of a debtor, and any other person or entity as may be ordered by the Bankruptcy Court in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code. Subject to certain limited exceptions, the order issued by the Bankruptcy Court confirming a plan provides for the treatment of such debt in accordance with the terms of the confirmed plan.

Prior to soliciting acceptances of a proposed chapter 11 plan, section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code requires a debtor to prepare a disclosure statement containing information of a kind, and in sufficient detail, to enable a hypothetical reasonable investor to make an informed judgment regarding acceptance of the chapter 11 plan. This Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the requirements of section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code.

# C. SUMMARY OF CLASSIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF ALLOWED CLAIMS AND EQUITY INTERESTS UNDER THE PLAN

The following chart summarizes distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims and Equity Interests under the Plan.<sup>4</sup> The recoveries set forth below are projected recoveries and may change based upon changes in Allowed Claims and proceeds available.

4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This chart is only a summary of the classification and treatment of Allowed Claims and Equity Interests under the Plan. Reference should be made to the entire Disclosure Statement and the Plan for a complete description of the classification and treatment of Allowed Claims and Equity Interests.

Pg 10 of 101

Class	Claim/Equity Interest	Treatment of Claim/Equity Interest	Estimated Aggregated Amount of Allowed Claims or Equity Interests <sup>5</sup>	Estimated Percentage Recovery of Allowed Claims or Equity Interests
1	Other Priority Claims	Unimpaired	\$4,800000,	100%
2	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired	\$19,700,000	100%
3	Second Lien Claims	Unimpaired	\$154,225,000 <sup>6</sup>	100%
4	International Holding Company Debtor Claims	Impaired	\$467,989,850	1.5%7
5	R.J. Tower General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	\$739,092,340	$0.4\%^{7}$
6	5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims	Impaired	\$126,536,314	<0.1%8
7	Other General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	\$1,090,355,244	<0.1%8
8	6.75% Debenture Related Claims	Impaired	\$272,863,611	
9	Common Equity Interests	Impaired		

# D. PARTIES ENTITLED TO VOTE ON THE PLAN

Under the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, not all parties-in-interest are entitled to vote on a chapter 11 plan. Holders of Claims not impaired by the Plan are deemed to accept the Plan under section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code and, therefore, are not entitled to vote on the Plan. Holders of Claims or Equity Interests impaired by the Plan and receiving no distribution under the Plan are not entitled to vote because they are deemed to have rejected the Plan under section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code.

The following sets forth the Classes that are entitled to vote on the Plan and the Classes that are not entitled to vote on the Plan:

Class	Claim	Status	Voting Rights
1	Other Priority Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
2	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
3	Second Lien Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept

Amounts set forth below are estimates only. The Allowance of Claims may be subject to litigation, and actual Allowed Claim amounts may differ from these estimated amounts.

This amount is subject to upward adjustment for interest, fees and expenses allowable and payable under the Prepetition Credit Agreement and/or the Final DIP Order, and subject to downward adjustment for amounts returned to the Second Lien Agent from the Second Lien Collateral Account. As of the date hereof, the balance of the Second Lien Collateral Account is estimated to be approximately \$113,000,000.

Recoveries to Holders of Claims in this Class will come, in part, from the Unsecured Creditors Trust. The Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets consist of (i) the \$10 million Unsecureds Claim Payment and the \$2 million Unsecureds Funds Payment, each as defined in the Purchase Agreement, that are transferred to the Unsecured Creditor Trust by the Purchaser, (ii) any overbid amount or other consideration provided by the Purchaser or the Successful Bidder pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, including, without limitation, Cash and/or Cash Equivalents (subject to the Marketing Protocol); and (iii) the Residual Chapter 5 Claims. For purposes of voting on the Plan, Holders of Claims in this Class should assume that there will be no recoveries on account of the Residual Chapter 5 Claims as any recovery from the prosecution of the Residual Chapter 5 Claims is too speculative to estimate.

No assurances can be provided with respect to the value of the Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets or the amount of value to be distributed from the Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets, if any, which amount will be shared Pro Rata by Holders of Allowed Claims in Voting Classes 4, 5, 6 and 7.

# Pg 11 of 101

Class	Claim	Status	<b>Voting Rights</b>
4	International Holding Company Debtor Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
5	R.J. Tower General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
6	5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
7	Other General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
8	6.75% Debenture Related Claims	Impaired	Deemed to Reject
9	Common Equity Interests	Impaired	Deemed to Reject

For a detailed description of the Classes of Claims and the Classes of Equity Interests, as well as their respective treatment under the Plan, see Article III of the Plan.

# E. SOLICITATION PACKAGE

The following materials constitute the Solicitation Package:

- the Confirmation Hearing Notice;
- the appropriate Ballot(s) and/or Master Ballot(s) and applicable Voting Instructions;
- a pre-addressed, postage pre-paid return envelope;
- the Disclosure Statement with all exhibits, including the Plan, the Marketing Protocol and any other supplements or amendments to these documents which may be filed with the Bankruptcy Court;
- a letter to the Holders in each of the Voting Classes urging them to vote to accept the Plan (the form of which is attached hereto as Exhibit D);
- the Disclosure Statement Order, which, among other things, (a) approves this Disclosure Statement as containing "adequate information" in accordance with section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code, (b) fixes a voting record date, (c) approves solicitation and voting procedures with respect to the Plan, (d) approves the form of the Solicitation Package and the notices to be distributed with respect thereto, and (e) schedules certain dates in connection therewith;

The above are collectively referred to as the solicitation package (the "Solicitation Package").

The Core Group, all parties in interest on the 2002 List as of the Voting Record Date and all parties entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan shall be served either paper copies or a CD-ROM containing the Disclosure Statement Order, the Disclosure Statement and all exhibits to the Disclosure Statement, including the Plan. Any party who is served a CD-ROM but desires a paper copy of these documents may request a copy from the Debtors' Voting Agent by writing to Tower Automotive, c/o Bankruptcy Services LLC, 757 Third Avenue, Third Floor, New York, New York 10017, Attention: Ballot Processing Center or calling 1-866-405-5263. The Solicitation Package (except the Ballots) can also be obtained by any party by accessing the Voting Agent's website at www.bsillc.com. Moreover, all parties entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan shall receive a Solicitation Package containing paper copies of the Confirmation Hearing Notice, an appropriate Ballot and/or Master Ballot, and the "Solicitation Procedures" (Exhibit 2 of the Disclosure Statement Order).

The Plan Supplement will be filed by the Debtors on or before July 2, 2007 (the "Plan Supplement Filing Date"). When filed, the Plan Supplement shall be made available on the Voting Agent's website at <a href="https://www.bsillc.com">www.bsillc.com</a>. The Debtors will not serve paper or CD-ROM copies of the Plan Supplement. However, parties may request a copy of the Plan Supplement from the Debtors' Voting Agent.

#### F. VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

Only the Holders of Allowed Classes 4, 5, 6 and 7 Claims as of **June 1, 2007**, the "Voting Record Date", are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan, and they may do so by completing the Ballot and returning it in the envelope provided to the Voting Agent by the Voting Deadline. Voting Instructions are attached to each Ballot.

The Debtors, with the approval of the Bankruptcy Court, have engaged Bankruptcy Services, LLC ("BSI"), 757 Third Avenue, Third Floor, New York, New York 10017, as the claims and noticing agent and as the voting

05-10578-alg Doc 2742 Filed 06/06/07 Entered 06/06/07 18:57:27 Main Document Pg 12 of 101

agent (the "Voting Agent") to assist in the solicitation process. The Voting Agent will, among other things, answer questions, provide additional copies of all Solicitation Package materials, and generally oversee the solicitation process. The Voting Agent will also process and tabulate Ballots for each Class entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan and will file a voting report (the "Voting Report") as soon as practicable before the Confirmation Hearing.

The deadline to vote on the Plan is 4:00 p.m., E.T., July 6, 2007 (the "Voting Deadline").

# BALLOTS

Ballots and Master Ballots must be actually received by the Voting Agent by the Voting Deadline by using the envelope provided, or by First Class Mail, Overnight Courier or Personal Delivery to:

> Tower Automotive Balloting Center c/o Bankruptcy Services LLC 757 Third Avenue, 3rd Floor New York, NY 10017

If you have any questions on the procedures for voting on the Plan, please call the Voting Agent at the following telephone number:

1-866-405-5263

ANY BALLOT THAT IS PROPERLY EXECUTED BY THE HOLDER OF A CLAIM, BUT WHICH DOES NOT CLEARLY INDICATE AN ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF THE PLAN OR WHICH INDICATES BOTH AN ACCEPTANCE AND A REJECTION OF THE PLAN, SHALL NOT BE COUNTED.

EACH HOLDER OF A CLAIM MUST VOTE ALL OF THEIR CLAIMS OR EQUITY INTEREST WITHIN A PARTICULAR PLAN CLASS EITHER TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN AND MAY NOT SPLIT THEIR VOTES. BY SIGNING AND RETURNING A BALLOT, EACH HOLDER OF A CLAIM IN CLASSES 4, 5, 6 AND 7 WILL CERTIFY TO THE BANKRUPTCY COURT AND THE DEBTORS THAT NO OTHER BALLOTS WITH RESPECT TO SUCH CLAIM HAVE BEEN CAST OR, IF ANY OTHER BALLOTS HAVE BEEN CAST WITH RESPECT TO SUCH CLASS OF CLAIMS, SUCH OTHER BALLOTS INDICATED THE SAME VOTE TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN.

ALL BALLOTS ARE ACCOMPANIED BY RETURN ENVELOPES. IT IS IMPORTANT TO FOLLOW THE SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED ON EACH BALLOT.

# G. THE CONFIRMATION HEARING

Section 1128(a) of the Bankruptcy Code requires the Bankruptcy Court, after notice, to hold a hearing on confirmation of the Plan. Section 1128(b) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that any party-in-interest may object to confirmation of the Plan.

The Bankruptcy Court has scheduled the Confirmation Hearing for **July 11, 2007**,at 11:00 a.m., Eastern time, (the "Confirmation Hearing Date") before the Honorable Allan L. Gropper, United States Bankruptcy Judge, in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York, Courtroom 617, One Bowling Green, New York, New York 10004. The Confirmation Hearing may be adjourned from time to time without further notice except for an announcement of the adjourned date made at the Confirmation Hearing or any adjournment thereof.

Objections to confirmation of the Plan must be filed with the Bankruptcy Court and served on the Debtors, and certain other parties, on or before 4:00 p.m., Eastern time, **July 6, 2007** (the "Plan Objection Deadline") in accordance with the Disclosure Statement Order that accompanies this Disclosure Statement. **THE BANKRUPTCY COURT WILL NOT CONSIDER OBJECTIONS TO CONFIRMATION UNLESS THEY ARE TIMELY SERVED AND FILED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT ORDER.** 

The Debtors will publish the Confirmation Hearing Notice, which will contain, among other things, the Confirmation Hearing date and time, the Voting Record Date, the Voting Deadline, and the Plan Objection Deadline, in the following publications in order to provide notification to those persons who may not receive notice

05-10578-alg Doc 2742 Filed 06/06/07 Entered 06/06/07 18:57:27 Main Document Pg 14 of 101

by mail: the USA Today, The New York Times, the Detroit Free Press/ Detroit News, Automotive News and the national edition of The Wall Street Journal.

# H. CONFIRMING AND CONSUMMATING THE PLAN

It shall be a condition to Confirmation of the Plan that all provisions, terms and conditions of the Plan are approved in the Confirmation Order. In addition, certain other conditions contained in the Plan shall have been satisfied or waived pursuant to the provisions of Article XII of the Plan.

Following Confirmation, the Plan will be consummated on the day that is the first Business Day after the Confirmation Date on which: (a) no stay of the Confirmation Order is in effect; and (b) all conditions specified in Article XII.B of the Plan have been (i) satisfied or (ii) waived pursuant to Article XII.C of the Plan (the "Effective Date").

For further information, see Article IV hereof - "SUMMARY OF THE JOINT PLAN"- Conditions Precedent to Confirmation and Consummation of the Plan."

# II. BACKGROUND

# A. OVERVIEW OF TOWER'S BUSINESS

Tower Automotive, Inc. and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as the "Company" or "Tower Automotive") is a global designer and producer of structural metal components and assemblies used by the major automotive original equipment manufacturers ("OEMs"), including Ford/Volvo, Hyundai/Kia, DaimlerChrysler, Nissan/Renault, Volkswagen Group, Toyota, Fiat and BMW. The Company provides broad technical design, engineering and program management capabilities for products that cover the entire body structure of a vehicle, including automotive body structural stampings and assemblies, exposed sheet metal ("Class A") components, lower vehicle structural stampings and assemblies and suspension components. The Company believes it is one of the largest independent global suppliers of structural components and assemblies to the automotive market (based on net revenues). The Company currently serves 87% of the major automotive OEMs around the world.

Tower Automotive is one of only a few companies that provide a broad array of structural metal products and services for the automotive sector. These products and services are delivered to the Company's customers on a global basis from 35 production and engineering facilities located in the North America, Europe, Brazil, South Korea, Japan, China and India. As OEMs reduce their supplier bases in efforts to lower costs and improve quality, they are more frequently awarding sole-source contracts to broadly capable suppliers who are able to supply large and complex portions of a vehicle on a global basis, rather than to suppliers that only provide individual component parts. OEMs' criteria for supplier selection include cost, quality, responsiveness, full-service design and engineering, and program management capabilities. In addition, OEMs increasingly are requiring their suppliers to have the capability to design and manufacture their products in multiple geographic markets. As a supplier with strong OEM relationships, broad capabilities and technologies, scale and global presence, the Company expects to continue to benefit from these trends going forward.

Since its inception in April 1993, when the Company was formed to acquire R. J. Tower Corporation, the Company's revenues have grown rapidly through internal growth and acquisitions on a global basis. From 1993 to 2006, the Company successfully completed 15 acquisitions and established five joint ventures to create the global footprint that characterizes the Company today. As a result of these acquisition activities and significant organic growth, Company revenues have increased from approximately \$86 million in 1993 to \$2.5 billion in 2006.

Approximately 46% of the Company's 2006 revenues were generated from sales in North America. The Company supplies products for many car, light truck and sport utility models, including: the Ford Five Hundred/Freestyle, Focus, Ranger and F-Series pickup trucks, Ford Expedition, Explorer, and Escape SUVs, Lincoln Navigator and Mercury Mountaineer SUVs, Econoline full size van; Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra pickups; Chrysler Town & Country and Dodge Caravan minivans; Dakota pickup trucks; Jeep Wrangler and Grand Cherokee; Toyota Camry, Avalon and Corolla cars and Tundra and Tacoma pickups; Honda Accord and Element; Nissan Xterra, Pathfinder, Armada SUVs, Infiniti QX56 SUV and Titan and Frontier pickups. Approximately 32% of the Company's 2006 revenues were generated from sales in Europe, 17% in Asia and 5% in South America. Key vehicle programs include: Volvo S40, V50, C30 and C40; DaimlerChrysler A-Class and Sprinter; BMW 1 & 3 series; VW Golf, Jetta and Toureg and the Porsche Cayenne; Fiat Punto, Stilo, Ducato; Alpha Romeo 147 and 156; Hyundai/Kia Spectra, Cerato, Sportage, Carinival and Sorento; and, Chery Flagcloud, WindCloud and Orient.

The Company's strengths are its strong diversified customer and geographic portfolio, its global manufacturing footprint, the progress made during the bankruptcy in addressing legacy costs and restructuring underperforming operations, and its leadership in manufacturing and design of complex automotive metal structures.

The Company's key strategies are to consolidate its position as a global metal structures leader, strengthen its financial performance, drive operational excellence throughout the company, leverage its scale to realize structural improvements and strengthen organizational depth to support leadership development and succession. Achievements of the last few years include the restructuring of the global manufacturing footprint by closing or selling one third of plants worldwide, including over half of the North American plants, driving operational improvements in productivity, safety and quality, eliminating about \$20 million annual cash costs for post retirement medical benefits and freezing pension plans, centralizing purchasing and other selling, general and administrative expense functions and continuing to win new business with key customers.

# B. THE DEBTORS' CORPORATE AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE

#### 1. RESTRUCTURING TRANSACTIONS

Tower Automotive was created through a series of acquisitions of complementary businesses that allowed the Company to become one of the largest independent global suppliers of structural metal components and assemblies (based on net revenues) with a diverse customer portfolio and a broad scope of product offerings. In the Company's early years, the growth coincided with an extended period of increased production and consolidation in the automotive industry, resulting in high levels of utilization of the Company's resources and capacity. Unfortunately, with little post-merger integration across the acquisitions, insufficient operational disciplines and a highly leveraged balance sheet, when automotive production declined relative to prior periods, the Company struggled with profitability in its North American operations.

Starting in 2001 through early 2005, the Company successfully finished launching a significant backlog of new business, which drove profitability in its international operations and helped strengthen customer relationships. At the same time, the North American region was reorganized, cutting SG&A costs while strengthening engineering resources, reducing excess capacity and eliminating redundant overhead costs. Despite the restructuring activities, developments in late 2004 and early 2005 led to a significant decline in the Company's liquidity position. These developments included market share and production declines at key North American OEM customers, a rise in steel prices, the termination of accelerated payment programs by certain automakers, higher than anticipated new program launch costs and the continued underperformance of the North American operations. The complex and restrictive capital structure built during the acquisition years presented a strategic challenge as debt service required cash outflows almost as high as on-going capital expenditures and drove the cost of capital above competitive levels.

Tower developed a multi-phase strategic plan to rationalize its manufacturing footprint, reduce operating costs and improve capacity utilization and efficiency. Phase I of the North American restructuring plan was completed on-schedule with the downsizing or closure of four plants and eight plant closures have been announced or completed as part of Phase II. In the international operations, Tower has also completed the consolidation of two plants in Korea, the restructuring of a German tool shop, the sale of a small hydroforming operation in Germany and the sale of a tool shop in Italy. The Company negotiated the sale of its Lansing, Michigan operations, allowing it to exit the low-margin, non-core power-train module assembly business at the end of 2006.

The Phase I and II North American restructuring actions are expected to generate approximately \$35 million in run-rate annual savings. The European and Asian closures are expected to generate approximately \$9-11 million of additional run-rate annual savings or cost avoidance.

# PHASE I AND II (COMPLETE) PHASE III (IN PROCESS) PLANTS AFFECTED Bowling Green, KY (closure) Milan, TN (closure) Belcamp, MD (closure) Granite City IL (closure) Corydon, IN (closure) Kendallville, IN (closure) Granite City, IL (downsize) Upper Sandusky, OH (closure) Hanam, Korea (closure) Chemnitz, Germany (sale) Gunpo, Korea (closure) Milwaukee, WI (closure) Greenville, MI (closure) Toronto, Canada (closure) German Tool Shop (closure) Oslamt, Italy (sale) Lansing, MI (sale) **NEW PLANTS** Meridian, MS Duisburg, Germany

NUMBER OF REMAINING NORTH AMERICAN PLANTS 16

12

# 2. SUMMARY OF PREPETITION INDEBTEDNESS AND OTHER FINANCINGS AS OF THE PETITION DATE

As of December 31, 2004, Tower's non-current liabilities were approximately \$1.6 billion. Of this amount, approximately \$1.35 billion related to long-term debt, approximately \$35 million related to obligations under capital leases and approximately \$214 million related to other non-current liabilities. Below is a summary of Tower's primary long-term debt obligations.

# (a) <u>Senior Secured Credit Facilities</u>

On May 24, 2004, Tower entered into a senior secured credit facility with Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. and J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., as sole and exclusive joint book runners and lead arrangers, Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc., as administrative agent, JP Morgan Chase Bank, as syndication agent, Standard Federal Bank, as collateral agent, and the other lenders named therein (the "Senior Credit Facility"). The Senior Credit Facility provides for aggregate borrowings by R.J. Tower of up to \$580.0 million, consisting of (a) a five-year revolving credit facility of up to \$50.0 million, including a \$25.0 million sub-facility for the issuance of letters of credit; (b) a five-year term loan facility in aggregate principal amount equal to \$375.0 million; and (c) a synthetic letter of credit facility in an amount equal to \$155.0 million.

On the closing date of the Senior Credit Facility, Tower borrowed \$46.5 million under the revolving credit facility, and issued letters of credit totaling \$3.5 million. In addition, the term loan was fully drawn. As of September 30, 2004, no amounts were available for borrowing under the revolving credit facility or the term loan. The revolving credit facility was used solely for working capital requirements and other corporate purposes. The borrowings under the term loan facility were used, together with a portion of the net proceeds from the sale of certain debentures (as described below), (a) to repay outstanding indebtedness under the old senior credit facility, (b) to redeem a series of convertible notes due in 2004, (c) to pay fees and expenses incurred in connection with the refinancing transactions, and (d) for general corporate purposes.

The \$155.0 million synthetic letter of credit facility was issued on the closing date of the Senior Credit Facility to replace or backstop letters of credit outstanding under R.J. Tower's previous senior credit facility that supported operating leases, capitalized leases of \$4.0 million, industrial development revenue bonds issued before the year 2000, workers' compensation obligations and to backstop an obligation outstanding under an interest rate hedging agreement. The lenders participating in the letter of credit facility deposited the full amount in a trust account held by Standard Federal Bank for the benefit of the issuer of such letters of credit. If a letter of credit is drawn under the synthetic letter of credit facility and not reimbursed in full by R.J. Tower, each participating lender's ratable share of the deposit will be applied automatically in satisfaction of the reimbursement obligation, and each participating lender will be deemed to have made a loan to R.J. Tower in such amount. R.J. Tower does not have an interest in any funds on deposit and does not account for such funds as indebtedness when deposited in the trust account. Indeed, the synthetic letter of credit facility will be reflected as debt on Tower's balance sheet only if and to the extent there are outstanding payments by the facility with respect to letters of credit. As of December 31, 2004, Tower had issued letters of credit totaling approximately \$151.94 million under the facility, all of which were undrawn. Draws were made against the issued second lien letters of credit in the amount of \$41 million as of March 31, 2007.

The revolving credit facility and term loan were scheduled to mature on May 24, 2009. The synthetic letter of credit facility matures on January 29, 2010. The obligations of R.J. Tower under the Senior Credit Facility were guaranteed by Tower and all of R.J. Tower's direct and indirect existing and future domestic restricted subsidiaries (as defined in the Senior Credit Facility). As described in subsection 3 of this section, \$425 million of the proceeds of the DIP facility were used to refinance the non-Second Lien portion of the Senior Credit Facility existing at the time of the bankruptcy filing.

# (b) The Unsecured Indentures

# (i) 12% Senior Notes

R.J. Tower issued the 12% senior notes under an indenture (the "12% Notes Indenture"), dated June 13, 2003, among itself, Tower, the subsidiary guarantors named therein and BNY Midwest Trust Company, as trustee. The current outstanding aggregate principal amount of the 12% senior notes is \$258.0 million.

The 12% senior notes are general unsecured obligations of R.J. Tower, and rank senior in right of payment to all existing and future indebtedness of R.J. Tower that is expressly subordinated to the 12% senior notes. The 12% senior notes rank equally in right of payment with all existing and future liabilities of R.J. Tower that are not so subordinated, but are effectively subordinated to the liabilities of R.J. Tower's subsidiaries that do not guarantee the 12% senior notes.

All of R.J. Tower's domestic subsidiaries have, jointly and severally, unconditionally guaranteed, on a senior unsecured basis, R.J. Tower's obligations under the 12% senior notes and all of its obligations under the 12% Notes Indenture. The obligations of subsidiary guarantors rank equally in right of payment with other indebtedness of such subsidiary guarantor, except to the extent that such other indebtedness is expressly subordinate to the obligations arising under the subsidiary guarantee. The 12% Senior Notes are part of Class 4 - International Holding Company Debtor Claims, Class 5 - R.J. Tower General Unsecured Claims, and Class 7 - Other General Unsecured Claims.

# (ii) 9.25% Senior Euro Notes

In July 2000, R.J. Tower issued €150,000,000 of 9.25% senior notes due in 2010 pursuant to an indenture (the "9.25% Notes Indenture"), dated as of July 25, 2000, among R.J. Tower, as issuer, the guarantors named therein and the Bank of New York, as successor trustee. The Euro-denominated senior notes are limited to an aggregate principal amount of €200,000,000, and will mature on August 1, 2010. The interest on the 9.25% senior notes is payable semi-annually on February 1 and August 1 of each year. The notes are listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, and the net proceeds of such offering were used to repay outstanding indebtedness.

The 9.25% senior notes are unsecured obligations of R.J. Tower, equal in right of payment with all other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness of R.J. Tower, and senior in right of payment to the outstanding and future subordinated indebtedness of R.J. Tower. Further, each of R.J. Tower's domestic subsidiaries that has guaranteed indebtedness under the Senior Credit Facility also unconditionally guarantees payment on a joint and several basis of all of R.J. Tower's obligations under the 9.25% Notes Indenture and the 9.25% senior notes. The guarantees are unsecured obligations of the guarantors, equal in right of payment with all other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness of the guarantors, and senior in right of payment to the outstanding and future subordinated indebtedness of such guarantors. The 9.25% Senior Euro Notes are part of Class 4 - International Holding Company Debtor Claims, Class 5 - R.J. Tower General Unsecured Claims, and Class 7 - Other General Unsecured Claims.

#### (iii) 6.75% Trust Convertible Subordinated Debentures

On June 9, 1998, Tower Automotive Capital Trust (the "TAC Trust"), a Delaware statutory business trust created at Tower's direction, completed the offering of \$258.8 million in aggregate liquidation preference of 6.75% trust preferred securities (the "TAC Trust Preferred Securities") with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. as successor trustee. The TAC Trust Preferred Securities resulted in net proceeds of approximately \$249.7 million, which were used to repay outstanding indebtedness of Tower. Tower owns all of the outstanding common securities issued by the TAC Trust, and the sole assets held by the TAC Trust are Tower's 6.75% convertible subordinated debentures, due June 30, 2018, that were issued in an aggregate principal amount of \$266.8 million.

Distributions on the TAC Trust Preferred Securities are payable at the annual rate of 6.75% of the liquidation amount of \$50 per TAC Trust Preferred Security (equivalent to \$3.375 per TAC Trust Preferred Security per annum) if, as and when the TAC Trust has funds available for payment. Distributions are payable quarterly in arrears on each March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31, commencing September 30, 1998. Distributions not made on the scheduled payment date will accumulate and compound quarterly at a rate per annum equal to 6.75%. The ability of the TAC Trust to pay distributions on the TAC Trust Preferred Securities is entirely

dependent on its receipt of payments with respect to the 6.75% convertible subordinated debentures held by the TAC Trust. The convertible subordinated debentures provide that payments of interest may be deferred at any time, and from time to time, by Tower for a period not exceeding 20 consecutive quarters. If interest payments on the convertible subordinated debentures are so deferred, distributions on the TAC Trust Preferred Securities will also be deferred, and Tower will not be permitted, subject to certain exceptions, to declare and pay cash distributions with respect to its capital stock or debt securities that rank *pari passu* with or junior to those debentures. On December 3, 2004, Tower announced that it was exercising its right to defer the dividend payment on the TAC Trust Preferred Securities that would otherwise have been paid on December 31, 2004.

The TAC Trust Preferred Securities are convertible, at the option of the holder, into Tower's common stock at a rate of 1.6280 shares of common stock for each TAC Trust Preferred Security, which is equivalent to a conversion price of \$30.713 per share.

The payment of distributions by the TAC Trust and payments on liquidation of the TAC Trust or the redemption of TAC Trust Preferred Securities are guaranteed on a subordinated basis by Tower to extent the TAC Trust has funds available therefor. Tower's obligation under the guarantee is subordinate and junior in right to payment of all of its other liabilities, and ranks *pari passu* with the most senior preferred stock, if any, issued from time to time by Tower. Tower's obligations under the 6.75% convertible subordinated debentures are subordinate and junior in right of payment to all senior debt of Tower. The term "senior debt" is generally defined under the indenture to mean any indebtedness of Tower for money borrowed, except for trade credit and any such indebtedness that is by its terms subordinated to or *pari passu* with the 6.75% convertible subordinated debentures, as the case may be. Tower's obligations under the guarantee and the 6.75% convertible subordinated debentures are effectively subordinated to all existing and future obligations of Tower's subsidiaries. The 6.75% Trust Convertible Subordinated Debentures are part of Class 8 - 6.75% Debenture Related Claims.

# (iv) 5.75% Convertible Senior Notes.

On May 24, 2004, Tower issued certain 5.75% debentures under an indenture (the "5.75% Notes Indenture") between Tower and BNY Midwest Trust Company, as trustee (with HSBC Bank USA, National Association as successor trustee). The debentures and the shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the debentures are covered by a registration rights agreement, dated as of May 24, 2004, among Tower and the initial purchasers thereof.

The 5.75% debentures are general unsecured senior obligations of Tower and rank equally in right of payment to any present or future senior debt of Tower, including its existing and future unsecured subordinated indebtedness and its guarantee of the 12% senior notes. The 5.75% debentures are limited to an aggregate principal amount of \$125,000,000 and mature on May 15, 2024, unless earlier converted, repurchased or redeemed. The debentures accrue interest at a rate of 5.75% each year payable in cash on each May 15 and November 15, beginning November 15, 2004.

Holders of the 5.75% debentures have the option, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions and during certain periods, to convert their debentures into shares of common stock at an initial conversion rate of 231.0002 shares of Tower's common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of debentures to be converted. This is equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$4.33 per share of common stock. The conversion rate is subject to adjustment if certain events occur. Upon a surrender of debentures for conversion, Tower will have the right to deliver, in lieu of shares of its common stock, cash or a combination of cash and shares of common stock in amounts described in the debenture. All debentures converted on any day will receive the same form of conversion payment, namely, cash, shares of Tower's common stock or a combination of the two. The 5.75% Convertible Senior Notes are part of Class 6 - 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims.

# (c) <u>2004 Securitization Facility.</u>

On or about December 30, 2004, Tower closed a \$50 million trade receivables securitization facility with General Electric Commercial Finance ("GE") that provided \$44 million in initial proceeds (the "GE Securitization Facility"). Under the GE Securitization Facility all eligible receivables are sold to Tower Automotive Asset Securitization Company, L.L.C. ("TAASC"), a non-debtor special purpose entity wholly owned by R.J. Tower. To the extent that TAASC holds receivables in excess of the collateral base pledged under the GE Securitization Facility, the value of such receivables is reflected as either a capital contribution by R.J. Tower to TAASC, or as a

note payable from TAASC to R.J. Tower. The securitization facility is set to expire in December, 2007. As of January 17, 2005, the GE Securitization Facility was fully utilized, meaning that Tower had no additional ability at that time to sell additional receivables into the GE Securitization Facility. Moreover, as a consequence of the Debtors' Bankruptcy Filing, the GE Securitization Facility unwound and Tower lost the ability to sell receivables into the facility.

#### (d) Foreign Indebtedness.

As of December 31, 2004, R.J. Tower's foreign subsidiaries had an aggregate of \$163.9 million of outstanding indebtedness. For the most part, borrowings by Tower's foreign subsidiaries are made under credit agreements with commercial lenders in their respective jurisdictions and are used to fund working capital and other operating requirements. Tower has guaranteed \$70.6 million of the outstanding borrowings of its foreign subsidiary Seojin, up to a limit of approximately \$105.7 million. Tower's guarantees expire on various dates, with certain guarantees having expired in April 2005 and others expiring at the same time as the underlying borrowings come due.

Certain foreign subsidiaries of R.J. Tower are subject to restrictions on their ability to dividend or otherwise distribute cash to R.J. Tower because they are subject to financing arrangements that restrict them from paying dividends.

#### III. CHAPTER 11 CASES

# A. OVERVIEW -- EVENTS LEADING TO THE CHAPTER 11 CASES

Notwithstanding the restructuring activities Tower had undertaken in 2002 through 2004, Tower still encountered significant operational and financial difficulties. A series of developments resulted in a reduction of Tower's liquidity position, thereby jeopardizing near-term payment obligations and threatening Tower's ability to continue to pursue necessary growth and development initiatives.

First, the market share and overall production of Tower's largest North American customers declined in recent years. Tower typically supplied its customers on a requirements basis, and is not guaranteed any set volume of business. Therefore, when Tower's customers decreased production, the volume of Tower's business simultaneously decreased. The decrease in production by Tower's customers was disproportionately weighted towards light trucks and sport utility vehicles, which are core components of Tower's business.

Second, Tower incurred significant costs in the years leading up to its bankruptcy filing related to the launch of new business lines. For example, Tower had a significant amount of new product launch activity in 2004. Unforeseen difficulties in managing these new launches resulted in significantly higher than anticipated new launch program costs, which had an adverse effect on liquidity and profitability.

Third, Tower experienced certain commodity price increases. Notably, the cost of steel increased significantly, and certain of Tower's supply contracts at fixed prices did not allow Tower to pass through increased material costs.

Fourth, during the third quarter of 2004, certain of Tower's OEM customers terminated their accelerated payments programs for all of their suppliers, including Tower. The termination of these programs had a material adverse impact on Tower's short-term liquidity position by pushing back the dates by which the Debtors received certain payments.

Finally, Tower has not always been able to achieve its desired level of cost savings with respect to existing product lines. In many cases, long-term supply contracts with Tower's customers call for regular price decreases. In cases where Tower was unable to achieve cost savings sufficient to offset these price decreases, Tower's profit margin decreased accordingly.

As a result of these factors, and several others, Tower endured a steady decline in its gross margin in each of the four years leading up to its bankruptcy filing, from 14.7% in 2000 to 11.2% in 2001, 10.8% in 2002, 9.1% in 2003, and only 7.1% for 2004.

The steady deterioration of their liquidity position forced the Debtors to seek chapter 11 protection as they restructured their operations and their balance sheet, in an effort to return to profitability. On February 2, 2005, Tower Automotive, Inc. and 25 of its subsidiaries each filed a voluntary petition for relief under the Bankruptcy Code (the "Commencement Date"). The Debtors continue to operate their businesses and manage their properties as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107 and 1008 of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### B. APPOINTMENT OF THE CREDITORS COMMITTEE

On February 15, 2005, the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York appointed the official committee of unsecured creditors of the Debtors (the "Committee") pursuant to section 1102 of the Bankruptcy Code. The original members of the Committee were: (i) MST Steel Corporation of Kentucky, (ii) The Bank of New York, as Indenture Trustee, (iii) HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as Indenture Trustee, (iv) Quantum Partners, (v) The Worthington Steel Company (vi) Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Indenture Trustee, and (vii) PBGC. On October 20, 2005, the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York appointed Comau Pico as a new member of the Committee to replace The Worthington Steel Company which resigned. The current members of the Committee are (i) MST Steel Corporation of Kentucky, (ii) The Bank of New York, as Indenture Trustee, (iii) HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as Indenture Trustee, (iv) Camulos Capital LP, (v) Comau Pico (vi) Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Indenture Trustee, and (vii) PBGC.

The Committee retained Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP as its legal advisors, Houlihan Lokey Howard & Zukin Capital ("HLHZ") as its financial advisors, Cervantes, Aguilar-Alvarez y Sainz, S.C., as special Mexican counsel, and Stutman Treister & Glass, as conflicts counsel. Each of these professionals submitted an application to the Bankruptcy Court for an order authorizing its retention and on March 30, 2005, March 21, 2006 and February 20, 2007 the Bankruptcy Court entered the respective orders. The March 30, 2005 order approving HLHZ was an interim order that automatically became final at a later date after no objections were filed.

Since the formation of the Committee, the Debtors have kept the Committee informed about their business operations and have sought the concurrence of the Committee in connection with certain actions and certain transactions taken by the Debtors outside of the ordinary course of business. The Committee has participated actively, together with the Debtors' management and professionals, in, among other things, reviewing the Debtors' business operations and the actions taken in the Chapter 11 Cases.

# C. ADMINISTRATION OF THE CHAPTER 11 CASES

During the initial stages of the Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors devoted substantial efforts to stabilizing their operations and restoring their relationship with vendors, customers, employees and utilities that had been impacted by the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases.

# 1. FIRST DAY ORDERS

Shortly after the Commencement Date, the Bankruptcy Court entered several orders authorizing the Debtors to pay various prepetition Claims. These orders were designed to ease the strain on the Debtors' relationships with employees, vendors, customers, shippers and taxing authorities as a consequence of the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases and to provide for an orderly transition into chapter 11. The Bankruptcy Court entered orders authorizing the Debtors to, among other things, continue certain customer programs and pay substantially all of the Debtors' prepetition wages and certain benefits to employees, pay certain prepetition taxes and government charges, pay prepetition premiums necessary to maintain insurance coverage, pay prepetition claims of certain shippers and lien claimants, and pay certain prepetition claims of certain vendors and service providers deemed by the Debtors to be essential to the uninterrupted functioning of the Debtors' business operations.

#### 2. STABILIZING OPERATIONS.

The Debtors devoted substantial efforts to responding to the disruption to their businesses caused by the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases and stabilizing their business operations. In that regard, the Debtors engaged in in-depth and detailed communications with critical suppliers, vendors, customers and employees to provide them with an understanding of the Debtors' financial situation and general plan from emergence from chapter 11. As a result, the Debtors believe that they were able to generally control the adverse impact of the commencement of the Chapter 11 Cases.

# 3. FINANCING

In February 2005, the Bankruptcy Court approved a Revolving Credit, Term Loan and Guaranty Agreement ("DIP Agreement"), as amended, with J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, N.A., as agent for the lenders ("Lenders") and each of the Lenders. On March 2, 2005, the Bankruptcy Court entered the final corrected order authorizing the Debtors to secure post-petition financing and to make use of cash collateral (the "Final DIP Order"). Pursuant to the Final DIP Order, the DIP Agreement provides for a \$725 million commitment of debtor-in-possession financing comprised of a revolving credit and letter of credit facility in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$300 million and a term loan in the aggregate principal amount of \$425 million. The proceeds of the term loan have been used to refinance the Debtors' prepetition obligation amounting to \$425 million under the credit agreement existing at the time of the bankruptcy filing. The proceeds of the revolving credit loans have been used to fund the ongoing cash requirements of the Debtors during the Chapter 11 Cases.

The Debtors requested permission from the Bankruptcy Court to replace Comerica with Deutsche Bank as its Letter of Credit Issuer when Comerica informed the Debtors shortly after the Petition Date that it would not be renewing any of the Second Lien Letters of Credit (the "Second Lien Letters"). On May 17, 2005, the Bankruptcy Court entered an order approving Deutsche Bank as the Second Lien Issuer (the "Second Lien Issuer"), and authorized the Debtors to pay certain fees and expenses in connection with the issuance of the replacement letters of credit.

Throughout the Chapter 11 Cases, Tower has worked diligently to ensure that the estates have sufficient liquidity to operate while it continued to evaluate its restructuring and transaction alternatives. On January 31, 2007, the Bankruptcy Court approved the eighth amendment (the "Eighth DIP Amendment") to Tower's postpetition secured credit facility. Under the Eighth DIP Amendment, Tower obtained a six-month extension of the DIP Agreement, to August 2, 2007. As part of the consideration for this extension, however, Tower committed to filing a chapter 11 plan on or before May 2, 2007 that provides for the payment, in full, of Tower's obligations under the DIP Agreement on the Effective Date of such plan.

#### 4. INCENTIVE AND RETENTION PROGRAMS

Prior to the Commencement Date, the Debtors operated an annual incentive bonus plan. The Debtors requested authorization from the Bankruptcy Court to continue this bonus plan in order to retain key employees that are essential to the Debtors' ongoing operations and efforts under chapter 11. On March 14, 2005, the Bankruptcy Court entered an order approving the continuation of the Debtors' annual incentive plan during the Chapter 11 Cases. On March 30, 2005, the Bankruptcy Court authorized the Debtors to continue the annual incentive bonus plan with respect to seven senior executives who were not included in the annual incentive bonus plan in the Incentive Order. Additionally the Bankruptcy Court approved a retention program for certain key employees to ensure that the key employees continue to provide essential services during the Chapter 11 Cases.

# 5. EMPLOYMENT AND COMPENSATION OF PROFESSIONALS

To assist them in carrying out their duties as debtors in possession and to otherwise represent their interests in the Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors employed, with authorization from the Bankruptcy Court, the following professionals: (a) Kirkland & Ellis LLP, as counsel for the Debtors; (b) Togut, Segal & Segal LLP as Conflicts Counsel for the Debtors; (c) FTI Consulting, Inc. as financial advisors to the Debtors, ("FTI"); (d) BSI as Notice, Claims, and Balloting Agent to the Debtors; (e) Deloitte & Touche LLP, as independent auditors and accountants to the Debtors; (f) Lazard Freres, as investment bankers to the Debtors ("Lazard"); (g) Varnum Riddering Schmidt & Howlett LLP, as special counsel to the Debtors; (h) A.T. Kearney, as consultants to the Debtors; (i) Ernst & Young LLP as internal auditors and tax service providers to the Debtors; (j) Jefferson Wells International, Inc., to provide internal tax and accounting services to the Debtors; (k) Deloitte Tax LLP, as tax service providers and tax consultants to the Debtors, (l) Foley & Lardner LLP as special labor negotiation counsel for the Debtors, (m) Dovebid Valuation Services, Inc., as appraisers to the Debtors, and (n) Duff & Phelps, LLC, as valuation consultants to the Debtors. Additionally, the Debtors and the Committee jointly retained Heidrick & Struggles, Inc., as a consultant to assist in locating and hiring members of the Board of Reorganized Tower Automotive, Inc. The Bankruptcy Court entered orders retaining each of these professionals.

# 6. OPERATIONAL RESTRUCTURING EFFORTS

Throughout the course of these Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors have engaged in ongoing operational restructuring efforts including the closure of certain plants and sale of certain assets. Tower has announced the closure or sale of ten production facilities in North America and an additional six production facilities around the world. As a result Tower has experienced headcount reductions of approximately 2,800 colleagues during the course of these Chapter 11 Cases. The Debtors have sought court approval for the sale of *de minimus* assets and non-*de minimus* assets that were no longer profitable for the Debtors. For example, the Bankruptcy Court approved the sale of a piece of heavy equipment that had been rendered useless to the Debtors to Metalsa S.A. de C.V. for \$1 million dollars. The sale of this piece of equipment and others was part of Debtors' overall consolidation efforts to reduce cost and minimize waste.

The Debtors have also rejected over 50 unfavorable equipment leases, real property leases and unexpired leases in furtherance of the Debtors' ongoing operational restructuring efforts. On March 30, 2005, the Debtors obtained an order from the Bankruptcy Court extending the time the Debtors have to assume or reject unexpired leases of real property by 180 days. After obtaining this order, the Debtors received Bankruptcy Court approval for rejection of several unprofitable real property leases and equipment leases including those associated with the Debtors' operations in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Corydon, Indiana. The Bankruptcy Court has approved multiple extensions of the time the Debtors have to assume or reject unexpired leases of real property. The current deadline is July 31, 2007, subject to further extension.

# 7. CUSTOMER AND SUPPLIER AGREEMENTS

On August 10, 2005, the Bankruptcy Court entered an order approving the Debtors' settlement with GM, authorizing the sale of assets by the Debtors to GM, and authorizing and approving the payment of certain prepetition claims.

When one of the Debtors' key suppliers ("Trim Trends") went into bankruptcy, the Bankruptcy Court approved an agreement between the Debtors and Trim Trends pursuant to which the Debtors provided certain accommodations to support Trim Trends as it pursued a sale of its business operations. Bankruptcy Court approval also ensured that the Debtors would continue to receive revenue from the component parts provided by Trim Trends, thus avoiding the unnecessary and potentially devastating costs and damages associated from a shutdown of the Debtors' facilities.

Over the past few months, as part of the Debtors' business strategy to induce lasting sales and to be an attractive target for potential purchasers, Tower has been negotiating several long-term accommodations agreements with its key OEM customers. On April 4, 2007, the Bankruptcy Court authorized the Debtors to file under seal their motions for court approval of these customer agreements. These agreements include pricing adjustments on selected platforms and service parts, commitments with respect to certain price givebacks, adjustments of payment terms, assistance in moving or resourcing low volume or low margin products, acceleration of reimbursement for tooling expenses and commitments to not resource current business.

# 8. ANALYSIS OF AVOIDANCE ACTIONS

Pursuant to Bankruptcy Code sections 547, 548 and 550, the Debtors commenced approximately 420 adversary proceedings seeking to avoid and recover transfers made during the 90 days preceding the Petition Date aggregating approximately \$270,000,000 ("Commenced Actions"). In addition, the Debtors entered into 28 tolling agreements, tolling the applicable statutes of limitations under Chapter 5 of the Bankruptcy Code ("Tolled Actions", together with the Commenced Actions, the "Avoidance Actions"), for potential actions to avoid and recover transfers made during the 90 days preceding the Petition Date aggregating approximately \$20,000,000.

# D. 1113/1114 PROCESS

#### 1. BACKGROUND

The Debtors spent the first eight months of these Chapter 11 Cases focusing on operational restructuring efforts in an attempt to return their businesses to profitability including the closure of certain of the Debtors' North American plants, the improvement of operational efficiencies at the Debtors' plants and the attainment of price increases from customers. After these initial efforts proved insufficient to return the Debtors to profitability, the

# 05-10578-alg Doc 2742 Filed 06/06/07 Entered 06/06/07 18:57:27 Main Document Pg 25 of 101

Debtors made the very difficult, but necessary decisions to seek modifications to their collective bargaining agreements and retiree benefits.<sup>9</sup>

In September 2005, the Debtors sent letters to the Representatives explaining the Debtors' need for labor and retiree benefit cost savings, and requesting an initial meeting to begin the bargaining process. These letters were sent to representatives of the International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (the "UAW")<sup>10</sup>; the Untied Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union ("USW")<sup>11</sup>; the IUE, the Industrial Division of the Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO, CLC ("IUE-CWA")<sup>12</sup>; and the Smith Steel Workers D.A.L.U. 19806, AFL-CIO, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers District Council 10, Technical Engineers Association, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 663, Service Employees International Union, Local 1, Steamfitters Union, Local 601, and Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters (the "Milwaukee Unions", collectively with the UAW, USW, IUE-CWA, the "Unions"). In response, the Unions informed the Debtors that they would serve as the designated authorized representatives for their respective retiree groups. The UAW also confirmed that it would act as the authorized representative for certain retirees at business units that are no longer in operation.

After conducting initial in-person meetings with the Unions, the Debtors made initial proposals to the Unions in October 2005. On November 8, 2005, the Bankruptcy Court appointed an Official Committee of Retired Employees (the "Retiree Committee", and together with the Unions, the "Representatives") to represent the Debtors' non-Union salaried and management retirees. Shortly thereafter, the Debtors conducted an in-person meeting with the Retiree Committee and made a similar proposal.

Over the next several months the parties engaged in extensive discovery. The Debtors made every effort to make the process of reducing its labor and legacy costs consensual. In addition to the numerous in-person meetings and negotiating sessions, the Debtors opened their books and financial records to the Unions and Retiree Committee,

All references to retiree benefits contained in this section of the Disclosure Statement shall mean "retiree benefits" as defined by section 1114 of the Bankruptcy Code. Section 1114(a) of the Bankruptcy Code defines "retiree benefits" as:

payments to any entity or person for the purpose of providing or reimbursing payments for retired employees and their spouses and dependents, for medical, surgical, or hospital care benefits, or benefits in the event of sickness, accident, disability, or death under any plan, fund or program (through the purchase of insurance or otherwise) maintained or established in whole or in part by the debtor prior to filing a petition commencing a case under this title.

11 U.S.C. § 1114(a).

- The UAW agreed to act as the authorized representative under section 1114(c)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code for union retirees from the following facilities formerly operated by the Debtors or predecessors of the Debtors: (i) the Kalamazoo facility, represented by UAW Local 740 (the "Kalamazoo Union"), (ii) the Active Tool & Manufacturing Company Inc. facility, represented by UAW Local 155 (the "Active Tool Union"), (iii) the Masco Tech facility, represented by UAW Local 174 (the "Masco Tech Union"), (iv) the Bluffton, OH facility (the "Bluffton Facility"); (v) the Kendallville, IN facility (the "Kendallville Facility"); (vi) the Plymouth, MI facility (the "Plymouth Facility"); (vi) the Traverse City, MI facility (the "Traverse City Facility"), (vii) the Clinton, MI facility (the "Clinton Facility"), and (viii) the facility at Granite City, IL (the "Granite City Facility").
- The USW acted as the authorized representative under section 1113(b)(1)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code for union employees from the Elkton, MI facility (the "Elkton Facility") and the facility in Milan, TN (the "Milan Facility").
- The IUE-CWA agreed to act as the authorized representative under section 1114(c)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code for the various current and future retirees from the Debtors' Greenville, MI location (the "Greenville Facility").

maintained an on-line data room to provide them with the documents and information necessary to evaluate the Debtors' proposals, and urged negotiations toward a mutually agreeable resolution.

While continuing to negotiate with the Unions and the Retiree Committee, on January 4, 2006, the Debtors filed their Motion (I) to Reject Their Collective Bargaining Agreements Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1113(c) and (II) to Modify Their Retiree Benefits Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1114(g) (the "1113/1114 Motion") and filed an extensive Memorandum in Support of the Debtors' Motion (I) to Reject Their Collective Bargaining Agreement Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1113(c) and (II) to Modify Their Retiree Benefits Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1114(g) (the "1113/1114 Memorandum"). The 1113/1114 Motion sought an order authorizing the rejection of the Debtors' collective bargaining agreements with, and/or modifying the retiree benefits of retirees represented by the Unions and the Retiree Committee.

Reducing labor-related and legacy costs were the central focus of the 1113/1114 Motion. The Debtors' unionized employees were historically entitled to a broad range of compensation and overtime pay packages, as well as significant dental, health, pension, and retirement benefits. The Debtors' retirees were historically entitled to a broad range of retiree benefits. Retirees had health coverage through at least age 65. Some retirees had lifetime health coverage, while others had been entitled to Medicare supplement payments after reaching the age of 65. Furthermore, the Debtors had provided life insurance benefits to retirees.

These various retiree welfare benefits and wage and benefit plans represented a significant liability for the Debtors, one that threatened the viability of the business if not addressed and resolved in a way that provided meaningful cash relief for the Debtors. As of September 30, 2005, prior to making its 1113 and 1114 proposals, an actuarial valuation conducted by the Debtors' benefits consultants, Towers Perrin, estimated the present value of Tower's retiree welfare benefits at approximately \$178 million (the "2005 APBO"), of which approximately \$133 million related to current retirees and approximately \$45 million related to anticipated costs of future retirees. In addition to the large future value represented by the 2005 APBO, the Debtors incurred substantial annual costs funding retiree welfare benefits. Towers Perrin projected that for 2006, payment of retiree welfare benefits would cost the Debtors approximately \$20 million. Further, as demonstrated during the lengthy hearings on the 1113/1114 Motion, the Debtors projected that their North American operations would be cash flow negative through 2008, even with all the cost savings sought in the 1113/1114 Motion. Without the cost savings sought through the modification of legacy retiree benefits, reductions in ongoing wage and benefit levels and the elimination of inefficient plants, the Debtors projected negative North American cash flows through at least 2010 and negative global cash flows through at least 2007.

On January 12, 2006 the Bankruptcy Court entered a pre-trial order setting forth the procedures and timeline by which the 1113/1114 Motion would be resolved.

#### 2. 1113 SETTLEMENTS

After a full trial on the 1113/1114 Motion and many months of difficult negotiations, Tower reached consensual settlements to enter into amendments to certain collective bargaining agreements with various employees represented by the UAW<sup>13</sup> and the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union (the "USW")<sup>14</sup> (the "UAW & USW Amendments"), which were approved by the Court.

The UAW acted as the authorized representative for union employees from the following facilities: (i) the Bluffton, OH facility (the "Bluffton Facility"); (ii) the Kendallville, IN facility (the "Kendallville Facility"); (iii) the Plymouth, MI facility (the "Plymouth Facility"); (iv) the Traverse City, MI facility (the "Traverse City Facility") and (v) the Clinton, MI facility (the "Clinton Facility"). In addition, the UAW represented employees at the Debtors' facility at Granite City, IL (the "Granite City Facility").

The USW acted as the authorized representative for union employees from the Elkton, MI facility (the "Elkton Facility"). In addition, the USW represented employees at the Debtors' facility in Milan, TN (the "Milan Facility").

The UAW & USW Amendments significantly reduced the Debtors' workforce-related expenses through the following modifications:

- <u>Bluffton Facility and Elkton Facility</u>: Wages were reduced and in certain instances frozen. Additionally, certain modifications were made to overtime pay calculations and holiday vacation. Tower's contribution to healthcare plan values were reduced and supplemented by contributions by covered employees. Additionally, the pension plans were frozen.
- Milan Facility Closure: The USW agreed not to contest the closure of the Milan Facility and except for certain preserved grievances, the USW discharged Tower from claims, causes of action and damages.

#### 3. RETIREE SETTLEMENTS

Tower also reached consensual settlements to modify retiree benefits with the Milwaukee Unions (the "Milwaukee Settlement"), the Retiree Committee (the "Retiree Committee Settlement") and the UAW and IUE, CWA (the "UAW/IUE-CWA Settlement" and together with the Milwaukee Settlement and the Retiree Committee Settlement, the "Retiree Settlements"). The Court entered the orders approving the Retiree Settlements over the objection of the Committee. The Committee appealed the orders of this Court approving the Retiree Settlements. On December 15, 2006, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York (the "District Court") affirmed the Court's orders and denied the appeal. *Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors of Tower Auto. v. Debtors (In re Tower Auto., Inc.)*, 2006 WL 3751360 (S.D.N.Y. 2006) ("Tower Auto. II"). On December 28, 2006, the Committee appealed the District Court decision to the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, which appeal is currently pending.

The Retiree Settlements can be summarized as follows:

- Establishment of VEBA Trusts: Voluntary Employees Beneficiary Association ("VEBA") trusts were established to provide the remaining retiree benefits that were not compromised. Tower made up front cash payments to start up the VEBAs. The Retiree Committee VEBA received \$500,000, the Greenville VEBA received \$500,000 and the UAW Trust received \$125,000. Once the VEBAs were established and funded, Tower had no obligation to provide the remaining retiree benefits directly, rather such benefits would be provided through the Tower-funded VEBAs.
- Funding of VEBAs During the Chapter 11 Cases: Tower was obligated to make certain payments to the VEBAs during the pendency of the Chapter 11 Cases. Since the implementation of the Retiree Settlement, the Milwaukee VEBA has received nearly \$8 million, the Retiree Committee VEBA has received nearly \$450,000, the Greenville VEBA has received approximately \$1.1 million and the UAW Trust has received \$200,000. On July 1, 2007, the Debtors are scheduled to make payments of nearly \$1.5 million to the Milwaukee VEBA and \$80,000 to the Retiree Committee VEBA.
- General Unsecured Claims: Pursuant to the Retiree Settlements, the Milwaukee Unions, the Retiree Committee, the UAW and the IUE-CWA were granted general unsecured claims in the Chapter 11 Cases against R.J. Tower Corporation and the applicable domestic operating subsidiaries. The Milwaukee Unions were granted claims of \$150 million, the Retiree Committee was granted claims of \$16.5 million, the IUE-CWA was granted claims of \$15 million and the UAW was granted claims of \$2.5 million, each against the relevant Debtors (collectively, the "Benefit Reduction Claims"). The Benefit Reduction Claims are subject to reductions for the value of benefits provided or payments made by Tower during the remainder of Tower's bankruptcy cases.

22

Due to the small number of UAW retirees, a trust entity (the "UAW Trust") paid amounts directly to the UAW Retirees rather than providing benefits through a VEBA.

- <u>Life Insurance</u>: Life insurance coverage provided to the individuals represented by the Unions and Retiree Committee was immediately modified to reduce benefit levels to the minimum levels under Tower's current retiree life insurance program.
- Effective Date Payments: The Retiree Settlements provide the Retirees with a minimum guaranteed value to be contributed to VEBA trusts by way of a 20% claim floor mechanism. The claim floor is simply a two-step mechanism whereby Tower will give the retirees a guaranteed amount of value to be contributed into the respective VEBAs. The claim floor does not guaranty a recovery on account of the Benefit Reduction Claims. Rather, claim floor assures the retirees that regardless of the value they receive on account of the Benefit Reduction Claims, the Retiree Settlements will provide the retirees with a known, quantifiable minimum value. The way the claim floor works is that when Tower proposes a chapter 11 plan, Tower will calculate the percentage recovery that unsecured creditors will receive on account of their claims. All unsecured creditors who are similarly situated will presumably receive the same recovery under a plan of reorganization that will be proposed. If the Retirees receive less than a 20% aggregate recovery under the plan of reorganization on account of their general unsecured Benefit Reduction Claims, Tower will provide additional recovery to the Retirees, to be paid into the respective VEBAs, such that the Unions and Retiree Committee each receive the guaranteed minimum value they agreed to in the Retiree Settlements. 16 Additionally, on the effective date of a plan Tower must pay the Retiree Committee VEBA (a) \$425,000 in cash and (b) \$925,000 in cash or equity.
- Ancillary Issues: In addition to resolving the vast majority of Tower's retiree welfare obligations, the
  settlements resolved a myriad of ancillary issues, including hundreds of pending grievance
  proceedings, a putative class action lawsuit, pending National Labor Relation Board proceedings,
  arbitration proceedings, arbitration awards, claims under the National Labor Relations Act and
  ultimately, hundreds, if not thousands of claims filed in the Tower's bankruptcy cases.
- Additional Settlement Provisions Related to the Milwaukee Facility: The Milwaukee Settlement also resolved all issues related to the closure of Tower's Milwaukee facility, which was historically Tower's largest (and one of the costliest) production facilities, with manufacturing operations at the site going back over 100 years. Significantly, the Milwaukee Settlement resolved a number of difficult plant-closing issues, including severance benefits, application of pension credits, seniority and outsourcing issues related to wind-down operations. Further, depending on Tower's unsecured debt credit rating from 2009 through 2010, the Milwaukee Union's VEBA may be entitled to a payment of up to 40% of the projected APBO as of January 1, 2009 (the "Back-End Payment"). If Tower's credit rating is "B" or less, then Tower will have no obligation to make the Back-End Payment.

# 4. SECOND 1114 PROCEEDING

Tower's existing liabilities under the Retiree Settlements total approximately \$42.4 million to be paid on the effective date of a plan, plus a potential additional liability as part of the Back-End Payment under the Milwaukee Settlement (collectively, the "Retiree Benefits").

The Debtors have made new 1114 proposals to the Representatives. On April 11, 2007, the Debtors sent the Milwaukee Unions a proposal to modify their Retiree Benefits. On April 16, 2007, the Debtors sent the Retiree Committee, the UAW and the IUE-CWA proposals to modify Retiree Benefits. In connection with each proposal, Tower offered to meet with the Representatives at their convenience to discuss the proposals. The Debtors and the respective Representatives have commenced good-faith negotiations regarding the Debtors' proposed modifications to the Retiree Benefits provided for in the Retiree Settlements. The Debtors have reached agreement in principle with each of the Representatives and the Purchaser, as set forth in the TA Acquisition Company, LLC Purchase Agreement, subject to documentation. The Debtors anticipate filing one or more motions seeking approval of the new agreements with the Representatives, and that such motions will be heard on or before the Confirmation

23

These minimum guaranteed recoveries are subject to incremental increase based on the recoveries ultimately recognized by certain senior bondholder groups.

Hearing. The Debtors reserve the right, if they are unable to document these agreements with the Representatives, to file a motion pursuant to section 1114 of the Bankruptcy Code to modify the Retiree Benefits as necessary to accommodate confirmation of the Plan.

#### E. CLAIMS BAR DATE AND CLAIMS ESTIMATION

By the order of the Bankruptcy Court dated March 30, 2005 (the "Bar Date Order"), and pursuant to Rule 3003 (c)(3) of the Bankruptcy Rules, the Court set May 31, 2005 as the deadline by which proofs of claim were required to be filed in these Chapter 11 cases by entities other than governmental units holding or asserting a claim as of the filing date against the Debtors, and August 1, 2005 as the deadline for governmental units to file proofs of claim (together the "Claim Bar Dates"). In accordance with the Bar Date Order, written notice of the applicable Claims Bar Dates was mailed to, among others, all Creditors listed on the Schedules and published in among other publications, the *USA Today* (National Edition) and the *Detroit Free Press/ Detroit News*. A deadline by which administrative proofs of claim are required to be filed with the Court has not been established as of the date of this Disclosure Statement.

To date, approximately \$10.8 billion in purported general unsecured and approximately \$1.1 billion in purported secured and priority proofs of claim have been filed against the Debtors' estates and the Debtors have objected (the "Claim Objections") to approximately \$2 billion of such claims on the grounds that they should be reduced and allowed or reclassified; disallowed and expunged; or reclassified. As a result of the Claim Objections or by agreement, approximately \$1.3 billion in general unsecured claims and approximately \$550 million in secured and priority claims have been determined as disallowed claims or withdrawn and the Claims Objections remain pending with respect to approximately \$225 million in purported general unsecured and approximately \$45 in purported secured and priority claims.

In addition, to date, approximately \$256 million in purported administrative proofs of claim have been filed against the Debtors' estates. The Debtors dispute many of these claims and contend that the actual total of valid administrative claims is, in fact, substantially less. In fact, Claims Objections have been filed with respect to approximately \$33 million of the purported administrative claims and, as a result, approximately \$13.5 million in administrative claims have been disallowed.

Furthermore, on April 23, 2007, the Debtors filed the First Omnibus Motion For Order, Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 105(a) and 502(c) Estimating Certain Contingent or Unliquidated Claims (the "Estimation Motion"). The Estimation Motion seeks to set a cap on certain administrative, priority and secured claims that were filed as contingent or unliquidated, which will result in a further reduction in the maximum amount of secured, administrative and priority claims that may be asserted against the Debtors' estates. An order granting the relief requested in the Estimation Motion, with minor modifications, was entered on May 15, 2007.

# F. SUBSTANTIVE CONSOLIDATION

The Plan contemplates and is predicated upon substantive consolidation of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors into a single entity and the International Holding Company Debtors into another entity, solely for purposes of all voting and distributions under the Plan. The Substantively Consolidated Debtors do not include Tower Automotive, Inc., or R.J. Tower or the International Holding Company Debtors. Entry of the Confirmation Order will constitute the approval, pursuant to section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, effective as of the Effective Date, of the substantive consolidation of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors, on the one hand, and the International Holding Company Debtors, on the other hand, solely for purposes of all voting and distributions under the Plan. Accordingly, for purposes of classification, voting and distributions under the Plan, (i) all assets and liabilities of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors will be deemed merged so that all of the assets of all of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors will be available to pay all of the liabilities of all of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors as if they were one company, (ii) all assets and liabilities of the International Holding Company Debtors will be deemed merged so that all of the assets of all of the International Holding Company Debtors will be available to pay all of the liabilities of all of the International Holding Company Debtors as if they were one company, (iii) any obligation of any of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors and all guaranties thereof by or enforceable against any of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors and any joint and several liability of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors will be treated as though they were a single obligation in the amount of the obligation of the primary obligor, (iv) any obligation of any of the International Holding Company Debtors and all guaranties thereof by or enforceable against any of the International Holding Company Debtors and any joint and several liability of the International Holding Company Debtors will be treated as though they were a single obligation in the amount of the

obligation of the primary obligor, (v) any Claim or Claims filed or to be filed against any of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors, on the one hand, or the International Holding Company Debtors, on the other hand, in connection with any such obligation and any such guaranties or any such joint and several liability will be treated as though they were a single Claim in the amount of the Claim against the primary obligor, (vi) any such guaranties of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors, on the one hand, or the International Holding Company Debtors, on the other hand, will be deemed eliminated and extinguished, (vii) all Claims of any Substantively Consolidated Debtor against any other Substantively Consolidated Debtor will be cancelled and extinguished, (viii) all Claims of any International Holding Company Debtor against any other International Holding Company Debtor will be made under the Plan on account of any Interests of any of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors in any of the other Substantively Consolidated Debtors; and (x) no distributions will be made under the Plan on account of any Interests of any of the International Holding Company Debtors in any of the other International Holding Company Debtors in any of the other International Holding Company Debtors.

Substantive consolidation is an equitable remedy whereby the assets and liabilities of different entities may be consolidated and dealt with as if the assets were held by, and the liabilities were incurred by, a single entity. Thus, if the Debtors are substantively consolidated under the Plan, the assets of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors, on the one hand, and the International Holding Company Debtors, on the other hand, would each be collapsed into a common fund for the payment of their prepetition liabilities, and any intercompany claims between and among the Substantively Consolidated Debtors, on the one hand, and the International Holding Company Debtors, on the other hand, would be extinguished. Consequently, a creditor of one of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors, on the one hand, or one of the International Holding Company Debtors, on the other hand, is treated as a creditor of the substantively consolidated group of debtors, and issues of individual corporate ownership of property and individual corporate liability on obligation are ignored.

There is no express statutory authority for substantive consolidation. The Bankruptcy Court's ability to order substantive consolidation derives from its general equitable powers under section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, which provides that "the court may issue any order, process, or judgment that is necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of this title." 11 U.S.C. § 105(a). See also F.D.I.C. v. Colonial Realty Co., 966 F.2d 57, 59 (2d Cir. 1992). Because the substantive consolidation doctrine lacks a statutory framework, courts must examine the facts and circumstance of each case to determine whether substantive consolidation is appropriate. See 5 Collier ON Bankruptcy ¶ 1100.06[1] (stating that substantive consolidation cases are to a great degree sui generis). Thus, (i) where the facts of a case establish that creditors rely on the separate existence of corporate or partnership entities in extending credit or would suffer more than minimal harm from disregarding such separate existence, substantive consolidation is disfavored, and (ii) notwithstanding such reliance, substantive consolidation may be ordered upon demonstration of an increased likelihood of the debtor's reorganization as a result of eliminating (a) the need to disentangle assets, (b) duplicative claims, and (c) the question of who among the debtors is liable. See, e.g., Drexel Burnham Lambert Group, 138 B.R. 723, 765 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1992); Chemical Bank New York Trust Co. v. Kheel (In re Seatrade Corp.), 369 F.2d 845, 847 (2d Cir. 1966).

The Debtors and their professionals, including FTI, spent significant time and attention analyzing intercompany relationships and dealings in order to determine the propriety of substantive consolidation. The Debtors and FTI concluded that the Debtors' historical record-keeping practices make it impossible to present historical asset and liability information on a legal entity basis among the Substantively Consolidated Debtors. The Debtors also believe their creditors, in many instances, treated the Substantively Consolidated Debtors as a single economic unit, relying on consolidated financial information and not their structurally separate corporate entities in determining their creditworthiness and extending credit. The Substantively Consolidated Debtors often conducted business on a consolidated basis and did not itemize transactions among their various legal entities. The Substantively Consolidated Debtors also conducted their business through a centralized cash management system. In sum, although each of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors were maintained as distinct legal entities, the Debtors believe that many creditors of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors did not rely on corporate separateness when deciding to extend credit, and, moreover, regardless of reliance, the Debtors do not believe it would be possible to meaningfully disentangle assets and liabilities between and among the Substantively Consolidated Debtors.

Accordingly, the Debtors believe that substantive consolidation of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors is required for purposes of the Plan and the distributions to be effected under the Plan. The Debtors further believe that substantive consolidation of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors will facilitate the implementation of the Plan, enabling the Debtors to treat holders of Claims with greater similarity and fairness and save administrative

costs by simplifying administration of the remaining assets and liability of the remaining assets and liabilities. The Debtors believe that, in addition to being justified pursuant to applicable law, substantive consolidation of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors is in the best interests of their creditors. The Debtors believe that the recovery of virtually all creditors of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors will be higher or approximately equal, under the Plan, as it would be if there was not substantive consolidation. Substantive consolidation is an essential element of the Plan. The Debtors submit that substantive consolidation is necessary for the efficient liquidation of the Debtors and is appropriate in these Chapter 11 Cases.

In addition to substantive consolidation of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors, the Debtors also propose substantive consolidation of the International Holding Company Debtors. The International Holding Company Debtors do not conduct substantial operations, and are not believed to have significant creditors, other than certain of the Debtors' secured creditors and the Holders of the International Holding Company Debtor Claims. While the Debtors believe that substantive consolidation is appropriate as among the International Holding Company Debtors, the Debtors do not believe that it would be appropriate to substantively consolidate the International Holding Company Debtors with the Substantively Consolidated Debtors. The Debtors and FTI have concluded that the books and records of the International Holding Company Debtors are separate and distinct and are not unduly entangled with the books and records of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors. Moreover, the Debtors believe that the Holders of the International Holding Company Debtor Claims relied upon the separate collateral value of the International Holding Company Debtors, and that the separate identity of the International Holding Company Debtors, apart from the Substantively Consolidated Debtors, was an important factor in the decision of the R.J. Tower bondholders to lend money under the 12% Senior Note Indenture and the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Indenture. Consequently, the Debtors do not believe it is appropriate to substantively consolidate the International Holding Company Debtors with any other Debtors, including either the Substantively Consolidated Debtors, Tower Automotive, Inc., or R.J. Tower.

# G. ATTEMPTS TO REORGANIZE

Throughout these Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors have considered many potential restructuring alternatives. The Debtors and their professionals have spent a significant amount of time evaluating the Debtors' post-reorganization capital structure. The Debtors and their financial advisors spent significant time exploring the possibility of financing a plan of reorganization through exit financing. The Debtors concluded that they would not be able to raise sufficient debt financing to allow them to pay allowed secured, priority and administrative expense claims in full and to emerge from bankruptcy. Subsequently the Debtors and their advisors considered and explored raising a relatively small equity investment to recapitalize the Debtors and providing creditors with a minority equity interest in the Debtors. Thereafter, as the Debtors financial condition and the state of automotive industry deteriorated, the Debtors concluded that their ability to formulate a chapter 11 plan required raising a substantial equity investment, which would involve an investor or group of investors acquiring substantially all of the equity in the Debtors' assets.

Dating back to the summer of 2006, the Debtors have had discussions with approximately 20 parties in an attempt to raise the capital investment the Debtors believed was necessary to permit a reorganization. Toward this end, on October 12, 2006, the Debtors filed a motion seeking authority to pay certain due-diligence and work fees to parties who may be interested in the Debtors' equity raise. This motion was approved by the Bankruptcy Court on October 25, 2006. Various potential investors performed significant due diligence and formulated the terms of their proposed equity investments. Given the size of the equity investment that would be necessary to restructure the Debtors, most investors required that they be given full ownership of Tower in exchange for the capital investment. Tower identified certain equity investors willing to consider such an investment, and on December 19, 2006, filed the *Motion to Authorize and Approve Indemnification Obligations Payment of Fees to Initial Committed Purchasers Pursuant to Backstop Commitment Letter and Restructuring Term Sheet* (the "Initial Backstop Motion"). On January 11, 2007, Tower withdrew the Initial Backstop Motion after receiving a notice of termination from the Initial Committed Purchasers (as defined in the Initial Backstop Motion).

# H. THE MARKETING AND SALE PROCESS

Following the withdrawal of the Initial Backstop Motion, and after several weeks of discussions with four interested parties (the "Interested Parties"), the Debtors asked the Interested Parties to submit their highest and best proposals, and determined that the restructuring term sheet (the "Term Sheet") submitted by TA Affiliate was the highest and best proposal. The Term Sheet represents the culmination of an intense and very fruitful negotiating process. Over the last several months, the value of the proposals from the Interested Parties has increased

# 05-10578-alg Doc 2742 Filed 06/06/07 Entered 06/06/07 18:57:27 Main Document Pg 32 of 101

dramatically. The Debtors estimate that the transaction set forth in the Term Sheet provides the Debtors' estates with over \$100 million more than the initial proposals from the Interested Parties.

On March 28, 2007, the Debtors filed a motion with the Bankruptcy Court seeking authority to enter into the Term Sheet with TA Affiliate as well as the approval of certain sale and bidding procedures (the "Marketing Protocol"), which procedures were approved (as modified) by an order of the Bankruptcy Court dated April 6, 2007 (the "Bidding Procedures Order").

# Marketing Protocol

The Marketing Protocol is designed to ensure that Debtors, their estates and their creditors receive the highest and best value possible, in the context of these Chapter 11 Cases. The Marketing Protocol sets forth a process whereby Tower, in consultation with the Committee, will continue to actively solicit competing proposals and will consider all proposals received, including proposals to acquire all of the Debtors' assets or for segments of the Debtors' business and can be summarized as follows:<sup>17</sup>

- <u>Notice</u>: The Debtors published the Marketing Protocol Notice in the national editions of *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. The Debtors also served the Marketing Protocol Notice and a copy of the Marketing Protocol Order with its exhibits on the Notice Parties.
- <u>Contact Parties</u>: The Debtors, in connection with Lazard, developed a list of Contact Parties who may be potentially interested in and who would have the financial resources to consummate a competing transaction to that of TA Acquisition Company, LLC. The Contact Parties received an Information Package consisting of a cover letter, a confidentiality agreement, a copy of the Term Sheet, the Marketing Protocol Order and its exhibits. After the Documentation Date, the Debtors will distribute a copy of the Purchase Agreement and the Plan to the Contact Parties.
- Access to Tier 1 Diligence Materials: In order to participate in the bidding process and to receive a copy of the Debtors' offering memorandum and access to a virtual data room containing non-public information concerning the Debtors, other than information that the Debtors deem to be business-sensitive, in their sole discretion, (i) a party must deliver a Preliminary Interest Package which includes an executed confidentiality agreement, identification of the bidder and its representatives, and (ii) the Debtors, in consultation with the Committee, must reasonably believe that the party would have the financial resources to consummate a Competing Transaction.
- Access to Tier 2 Diligence Materials: In order to access the virtual data room containing all diligence materials provided to TA Acquisition Company, LLC, including the business-sensitive information excluded from the Tier 1 Diligence Materials, a party must (i) submit a Preliminary Interest Package, and (ii) submit to the Debtors, with copies to the Committee: (a) an executed non-binding indication of interest satisfactory to the Debtors, in consultation with the Committee, which must reasonably identify the proposed Competing Transaction, including the assets proposed to be acquired, the proposed purchase price, contingencies and conditions precedent to closing, (b) written evidence of the party's appropriate senior executive's approval of the proposed Competing Transaction, and (c) written evidence that the Debtors, in consultation with the Committee, reasonably conclude demonstrates the party's financial ability to perform the Competing Transaction.
- <u>Bids</u>: To be eligible to participate in the Auction, each Bid and Bidder must satisfy each of the following conditions: (1) each Bid be accompanied by a good faith deposit in the amount of \$25 million, (2) if the Bid is for substantially all of the Debtors' assets, aggregate consideration must equal

27

The Marketing Protocol Order is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit B</u>. This summary refers to, and is qualified in its entirety by, reference to the Marketing Protocol Order. The terms of the Marketing Protocol Order will govern in the event any inconsistency arises between this summary and the Marketing Protocol Order. All capitalized terms used but not defined in this summary of the Marketing Protocol shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Marketing Protocol Order.

or exceed the sum of the Purchase Price (as defined in the Term Sheet), the value of the Assumed Liabilities (as defined in the Term Sheet), plus \$1 million, (3) each Bid must be on terms that are substantially the same or better than the terms of the purchase agreement with TA Acquisition Company, LLC and the Plan, (4) each Bid may not be conditioned on obtaining financing or any internal approval, or on the outcome or review of due diligence, (5) each Bid must be irrevocable until and unless the Debtors accept a higher Qualified Bid as an overbid, (6) each Bid must not request or entitle the Bidder to any break-up fee, termination fee, expense reimbursement or similar type of payment and each Bidder shall be deemed to waive the right to pursue a substantial contribution claim under section 503 of the Bankruptcy Code related in any way to the submission of its Bid or the marketing or auction process, and (7) each Bid must be received by the Debtors and the Committee in writing on or before June 20, 2007. If the Bid satisfies the above requirements it is a Qualified Bid.

- <u>Baseline Bid</u>: No later than June 22, 2007, the Debtors will notify all Qualified Bidders of the highest and best Qualified Bid (the "Baseline Bid") and provide copies of all submitted bids to all Qualified Bidders.
- Auction: The Debtors will conduct an auction on June 25, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern Time), if a Qualified Bid other than the TA Acquisition Company, LLC Purchase Agreement is timely received. At the start of the Auction, the Debtors will describe the terms of the Baseline Bid. All Bids made thereafter shall be Overbids which must be made in increments of at least \$5 million and comply with the conditions for a Qualified Bid except the Bid Deadline and Initial Minimum Overbid Increment shall not apply. All Overbids shall be made and received on an open basis, and all material terms of each Bid shall be fully disclosed to all other Qualified Bidders. The Debtors will maintain a transcript of all Bids made and announced at the Auction.
- <u>Selection of Successful Bidder</u>: If another Qualified Bid is received and the Debtors conduct an auction, the party who submits the highest and best bid at the auction, to be determined in accordance with the Marketing Protocol, will be declared the Successful Bidder. If no other Qualified Bid is received by June 20, 2007, the Debtors will not conduct the auction and shall designate TA Acquisition Company, LLC as the Successful Bidder.
- Sponsor Protections: In the event the Debtors (i) do not proceed with the Transaction or a transaction that involves the sale or acquisition of all or substantially all of Debtors' assets and (ii) TA Acquisition Company, LLC has executed and is not in material default under the terms of the TA Acquisition Company, LLC Purchase Agreement, Tower may be obligated to pay TA Acquisition Company, LLC certain fees and expenses as set forth in the Marketing Protocol.

Since entry of the Bidding Procedures Order, the Debtors, through their financial advisors, in consultation with the Committee, have contacted more than 50 parties to determine whether those parties have an interest in obtaining due diligence materials and pursuing a competing transaction.

Over the last month the Debtors and TA Acquisition Company, LLC have been negotiating the terms of the Asset Purchase Agreement (the "TA Acquisition Company, LLC Purchase Agreement"), which is annexed to the Disclosure Statement as <a href="Exhibit E">Exhibit E</a>.

IN THE EVENT THAT A BID OR BIDS OTHER THAN THE TA ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC BID SET FORTH IN THE TA ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC PURCHASE AGREEMENT IS SELECTED AS THE SUCCESSFUL BID, THE DEBTORS WILL NOT SOLICIT ADDITIONAL VOTES FOR A REVISED PLAN. THE DEBTORS WILL NOT DISTRIBUTE A REVISED DISCLOSURE STATEMENT OR A REVISED PLAN OR SOLICIT ADDITIONAL VOTES. THEREFORE, YOU SHOULD VOTE ON THE PLAN AS IF TA ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC IS THE PURCHASER AND THE TA ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC PURCHASE AGREEMENT REPRESENTS THE SUCCESSFUL BID. BECAUSE THE DEBTORS WILL ONLY SELECT ANOTHER QUALIFIED BID AS THE SUCCESSFUL BID IF SUCH BID PROVIDES MORE VALUE THAN THE TA ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC BID, ANY VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE PLAN WILL BE DEEMED TO BE A VOTE IN FAVOR OF ANY REVISED PLAN BASED ON A BID THAT IS HIGHER AND BETTER THAN THE TA ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC BID.

# IV. SUMMARY OF THE JOINT PLAN

# A. INTRODUCTION

THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS SUMMARIZE CERTAIN KEY INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE PLAN. THIS SUMMARY REFERS TO, AND IS QUALIFIED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY, REFERENCE TO THE PLAN. THE TERMS OF THE PLAN WILL GOVERN IN THE EVENT ANY INCONSISTENCY ARISES BETWEEN THIS SUMMARY AND THE PLAN.

THE BANKRUPTCY COURT HAS NOT YET CONFIRMED THE PLAN DESCRIBED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT. IN OTHER WORDS, THE TERMS OF THE PLAN DO NOT YET BIND ANY PERSON OR ENTITY. IF THE BANKRUPTCY COURT DOES CONFIRM THE PLAN, HOWEVER, THEN IT WILL BIND ALL CLAIM AND EQUITY INTEREST HOLDERS.

The Plan is structured to provide recovery to unsecured creditors in Voting Classes 4, 5, 6 and 7 from either or both of the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets and the Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets, depending on the Voting Class, as set forth in the Plan. The Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets will be distributed as International Holding Company Primary Recovery and R.J. Tower General Unsecured Claim Primary Recovery.

The distributions of International Holding Company Primary Recovery to Class 4 and R.J. Tower General Unsecured Claim Primary Recovery to Class 5 reflect an allocation of value taking into account several factors, including the relative rights and priorities of holders of such Claims, the relative contribution of value of each estate, as well as the allocation of senior Claims in such estates. For a more detailed discussion of these assumptions as well as the implications of this analysis, please refer to Article IV.C.2. hereof.

The proceeds of the Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets (which will include the Remaining Assets remaining after all Post-Consummation Trust Senior Claims have been paid in full) will be distributed to all Holders of Allowed Claims in Voting Classes 4, 5, 6 and 7, Pro Rata. In the event the Post-Consummation Trust has any value remaining after all Post-Consummation Senior Claims have been paid in full, the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator will distribute assets Pro Rata to all creditors entitled to receive either the Class 6 Recovery, Class 7 Recovery, International Holding Company Secondary Recovery or R.J. Tower General Unsecured Claim Secondary Recovery. This distribution reflects a settlement among unsecured creditors of intercompany liabilities and other intercreditor issues.

# B. ADMINISTRATIVE AND PRIORITY TAX CLAIMS

# 1. ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIMS

Subject to the provisions of sections 328, 330(a) and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, each Holder of an Allowed Working Capital Administrative Claim will be paid the full unpaid amount of such Claim in Cash by the Purchaser in the ordinary course of business.

Subject to the provisions of sections 328, 330(a) and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, each Holder of an Allowed Other Administrative Claim will be paid the full unpaid amount of such Claim in Cash by the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator, out of the Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account (unless otherwise provided in the Plan), (a) on or as soon as practicable after the Effective Date; (b) or if such Claim is Allowed after the Effective Date, on or as soon as practicable after the date such Claim is Allowed; or (c) upon such other terms as may be agreed upon by such Holder and the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator, or otherwise upon an order of the Bankruptcy Court. If the Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account is not sufficient to provide for the payment in full of all Allowed Other Administrative Claims, the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator shall utilize the other assets (or proceeds thereof) of the Post-Consummation Trust (other than assets held in segregated accounts), to the extent necessary, to pay such Allowed Other Administrative Claims in full.

#### Bar Date for Administrative Claims

Except as otherwise provided in Article II.A of the Plan, unless previously Filed, requests for payment of Other Administrative Claims must be Filed and served on the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator and the Purchaser, pursuant to the procedures specified in the Confirmation Order and the notice of entry of the Confirmation Order, no later than 60 days after the Effective Date. Holders of Other Administrative Claims that are

required to File and serve a request for payment of such Other Administrative Claims and that do not File and serve such a request by the applicable bar date will be forever barred from asserting such Other Administrative Claims against the Debtors, the Post-Consummation Trust or Unsecured Creditors Trust, or their respective property, and such Other Administrative Claims will be deemed discharged as of the Effective Date. Objections to such requests must be Filed and served on the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator, the Purchaser and the requesting party by the later of (a) 180 days after the Effective Date and (b) 90 days after the Filing of the applicable request for payment of Administrative Claims.

# (a) <u>Professional Compensation</u>

Retained Professionals or other Entities asserting a Fee Claim for services rendered before the Confirmation Date must File and serve on the Post-Consummation Trust and such other Entities who are designated by the Bankruptcy Rules, the Confirmation Order, or other order of the Bankruptcy Court an application for final allowance of such Fee Claim no later than 45 days after the Effective Date; <u>provided</u> that any professional who may receive compensation or reimbursement of expenses pursuant to the Ordinary Course Professionals Order may continue to receive such compensation and reimbursement of expenses for services rendered before the Effective Date, without further Bankruptcy Court review or approval, pursuant to the Ordinary Course Professionals Order. Objections to any Fee Claim must be Filed and served on the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator and the requesting party by the later of (i) 75 days after the Effective Date and (ii) 30 days after the Filing of the applicable request for payment of the Fee Claim. To the extent necessary, the Confirmation Order will amend and supersede any previously entered order of the Bankruptcy Court regarding the payment of Fee Claims. Each Holder of an Allowed Fee Claim shall be paid by the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator from the Retained Professional Escrow Account.

The Indenture Trustees may submit detailed invoices to the Debtors or the Trusts, as applicable, for all fees and expenses for which the Indenture Trustees seek reimbursement without the need for further Bankruptcy Court approval. The Debtors or the Trusts, as applicable, upon review of such invoices, may pay those amounts that the Debtors or the Trusts, as applicable, *in their sole discretion*, deem reasonable, and shall object in writing to those fees and expenses, if any, that the Debtors or the Trusts, as applicable, object to all or any portion of an Indenture Trustee's invoice, the Debtors or the Trusts, as applicable, and such Indenture Trustee will endeavor, in good faith, to reach mutual agreement on the amount of such disputed fees and/or expenses. In the event that the Debtors or the Trusts, as applicable, and an Indenture Trustee are unable to resolve any differences regarding disputed fees or expenses, either party shall be authorized to move to have such dispute heard by the Bankruptcy Court.

# (b) Ordinary Course Liabilities

Holders of Working Capital Administrative Claims based on liabilities incurred by a Debtor in the ordinary course of its business will not be required to File or serve any request for payment of such Working Capital Administrative Claims.

# 2. DIP FACILITY CLAIMS

Subject to the provisions of sections 328, 330(a), 331 and 506(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, and pursuant to the terms of the Final DIP Order, the Allowed DIP Facility Claims will be paid in full in Cash on the Effective Date.

# 3. PRIORITY TAX CLAIMS

On the later of the Effective Date or the date on which a Priority Tax Claim becomes an Allowed Priority Tax Claim, or, in each such case, as soon as practicable thereafter, each Holder of an Allowed Priority Tax Claim due and payable on or prior to the Effective Date will receive on account of such Claim, Cash in an amount equal to the amount of such Allowed Priority Tax Claim, which amounts shall be payable by the Post-Consummation Trust out of the Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account. If the Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account is not sufficient to provide for the payment in full of all Allowed Priority Tax Claims, the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator shall utilize the other assets (or proceeds thereof) of the Post-Consummation Trust (other than assets held in segregated accounts), to the extent necessary, to pay such Allowed Priority Tax Claims in full.

# C. CLASSIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF CLASSIFIED CLAIMS AND EQUITY INTERESTS

# 1. SUMMARY

The categories of Claims and Equity Interests listed below classify Claims and Equity Interests for all purposes, including voting, confirmation and distribution pursuant to the Plan and pursuant to sections 1122 and 1123(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code. The Plan deems a Claim or Equity Interest to be classified in a particular Class only to the extent that the Claim or Equity Interest qualifies within the description of that Class and shall be deemed classified in a different Class to the extent that any remainder of such Claim or Equity Interest qualifies within the description of such different Class. A Claim or Equity Interest is in a particular Class only to the extent that any such Claim or Equity Interest is Allowed in that Class and has not been paid or otherwise settled prior to the Effective Date.

# (a) <u>Summary of Classification and Treatment of Classified Claims and Equity Interests</u>

Class	Claim	Status	<b>Voting Rights</b>
1	Other Priority Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
2	Other Secured Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
3	Second Lien Claims	Unimpaired	Deemed to Accept
4	International Holding Company Debtor	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
	Claims		
5	R.J. Tower General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
6	5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
7	Other General Unsecured Claims	Impaired	Entitled to Vote
8	6.75% Debenture Related Claims	Impaired	Deemed to Reject
9	Common Equity Interests	Impaired	Deemed to Reject

#### 2. RECOVERY ANALYSIS

The Debtors, the Committee and their respective advisors worked together to develop a framework to determine estimated recoveries for the Debtors' various unsecured creditor constituencies and are in agreement over the methodology that underlies the analysis. The substantive assumptions that underlie the recovery analysis include (i) the determination of which legal entities should be substantively consolidated, (ii) the attribution of distributable value to such entities and (iii) the allocation of claims by legal entity. The Debtors' advisors, in consultation with the Committee's advisors, applied this methodology to determine the recoveries under the Plan for the various unsecured creditor constituents in Classes 4 through 8. The discussion below generally describes the critical assumptions and mechanics underlying the agreed-upon recovery analysis methodology, and the general conclusions.

**Entities.** The analysis aggregates Tower's legal entities (both domestic and international) into seven entities or groups of entities. The entities are (i) Tower Inc., the Debtors' top-tier holding company, (ii) R.J. Tower, the Debtors' intermediate holding company, (iii) the Substantively Consolidated Debtors, which include the Debtors various domestic subsidiaries below R.J. Tower, (iv) the International Holding Company Debtors, which are domestic holding companies for the Debtors' interests in certain international operations, notably including the European and Korean operations, and (v – vii) three first-tier international subsidiaries of R.J. Tower, Changchun Tower Golden Ring Automotive Products Company ("TGR"), Tower Automotive Mexico S. De R.L. de C.V., the holding company for the Debtors' 40% joint venture interest in Metalsa S de R.L. de C.V. ("Metalsa"), and Tower Automotive Canada. This consolidation of entities was agreed to after substantial diligence on intercompany transactions conducted by FTI, the Debtors and the Committee's advisors over the course of the last few years (see Section III.F Substantive Consolidation and Article XI of the Plan).

Value Allocation. With the seven legal entities identified, the recovery analysis assumes an allocation of distributable value implied by the purchase price as provided in the Purchase Agreement to each entity based principally on EBITDA contribution with adjustments made to take into consideration the relative performance of businesses in different geographic regions and other regional or legal entity specific considerations (e.g., the existence of a minority investor). Accordingly, as a starting point, the Debtors' domestic operations are ascribed less value than is collectively ascribed to the International Holding Company Debtors and the three first-tier international subsidiaries of R.J. Tower. In fact, of these five entities, the International Holding Company Debtors are ascribed the most value due to the relative EBITDA contribution and performance of Tower's European and Korean operations, which are wholly owned by the International Holding Company Debtors. With no EBITDA-generating assets at Tower, Inc., or at R.J. Tower, no direct value is ascribed to those entities. Instead, similar to the International Holding Company Debtors deriving their value from their interests in various international subsidiaries, any value ascribed to Tower, Inc. and R.J. Tower is from residual value that inures to them from direct and indirect equity interests in subsidiaries and from certain intercompany claims.

Intercompany claims that are included in the recovery analysis are (i) a note payable from Tower Automotive Deutscheland GmbH & Co. (a subsidiary of the International Holding Company Debtors) to R.J. Tower in the amount of \$25.1 million, (ii) a note payable from Tower Automotive Europe B.V. (a subsidiary of the International Holding Company Debtors) to R.J. Tower in the amount of \$16.7 million and (iii) two notes payable from Tower Automotive International B.V. (a subsidiary of the International Holding Company Debtors) to Tower

Automotive International Holdings, Inc. (one of the International Holding Company Debtors) totaling \$320.1 million (all amounts estimated as of March 31, 2007 and assume an exchange rate of \$1.3355 per Euro).

**Claim Allocation.** Another factor in determining recoveries for unsecured creditor constituents is to determine how different claims should be allocated between and among the Debtors and their subsidiaries.

The Plan provides for the payment in full of the Debtors' Administrative Claims, DIP Facility Claims, Priority Tax Claims, Other Priority Claims, Other Secured Claims and Second Lien Claims, which are all senior to unsecured claims. The recovery analysis assumes that Administrative Claims, Other Priority Claims (Class 1 claims) and Other Secured Claims (Class 2 claims) recover value from the Debtors' domestic subsidiaries because these claims relate to domestic entities. In addition to these claims, the Debtors' industrial revenue bonds recover value exclusively from the domestic subsidiaries for the same reason.

The Debtors' remaining secured debt, which consists of its DIP Revolver, DIP Term Loan and Second Lien Claims (Class 3 claims), recover value somewhat differently, taking into consideration the use of proceeds from these various financings and the terms of their respective credit agreements. In the case of the DIP Revolver and Second Lien Obligations, substantially all of the borrowings under the facilities were used to finance the Debtors' domestic operations. The DIP Term Loan, in the approximate amount of \$425 million, refinanced the first lien indebtedness under the Prepetition Credit Agreement, which borrowings funded Tower's global operations.

Taken together, the recovery analysis assumes that the DIP Revolver recovers value initially from the Debtors' domestic operations and then, because the value of the Debtors' domestic operations is not sufficient to fully satisfy the DIP Revolver, from the DIP Lenders' claims against the Debtors' international subsidiaries and the Debtors' interests in such international subsidiaries on a pro-rata basis. The DIP Term Loan is assumed to recover from the Debtors' foreign subsidiaries pro-rata based on the remaining distributable value after satisfying the DIP Revolver. The Second Lien Claims are assumed to recover value similar to the methodology employed by the DIP Term Loan. The recovery analysis assumes the DIP Lenders and Second Lien Lenders may recover pro-rata based on distributable value on account of their super-priority administrative expense claims. Because the value ascribed to the Debtors' domestic operations is fully offset to satisfy senior claims and debt (including Administrative Claims, Other Priority Claims, Other Secured Claims and a portion of the DIP Revolver), the residual balance of the DIP Revolver, the DIP Term Loan and the Second Lien Claims recover value exclusively from the Debtors' international subsidiaries and the Debtors' interests in such international subsidiaries, whether on account of their secured claims or their super-priority administrative claims.

With the distributable value of the Debtors' domestic operations fully accounted for, the value to be distributed to unsecured creditors through the Unsecured Creditors Trust resides in Tower's international operations which, because of residual equity interests and intercompany loans, flows into the International Holding Company Debtors and R.J. Tower. Based on the initial allocation of distributable value and resulting recovery against such value through the assumed allocation of claims, approximately 68% of the remaining distributable value is estimated to reside in the International Holding Company Debtors and the balance in R.J. Tower.

Value ascribed to R.J. Tower is distributed to all R.J. Tower creditors, which includes International Holding Company Debtor Claims. However, value ascribed to the International Holding Company Debtors inures entirely to Holders of Class 4 International Holding Company Debtor Claims (until such claims are satisfied in full), because those claims lie directly against the International Holding Company Debtors. Based on this methodology and key assumptions, Class 4 creditors are estimated to recover 1.9% against their claims while Class 5 creditors are expected to realize a lower 0.4% recovery. Because the value of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors is absorbed entirely by the allocation of senior debt, Holders of General Unsecured Claims against the Substantively Consolidated Debtors are not entitled to share in any portion of the assets allocated to the Unsecured Creditors Trust. Because Tower, Inc. only has value to the extent of its equity interest in R.J. Tower, and because R.J. Tower creditors will not be paid in full under the Plan, Holders of General Unsecured Claims against Tower, Inc. are also not entitled to share in any portion of the assets allocated to the Unsecured Creditors Trust. Because Holders of Class 8 6.75% Debenture Related Claims are contractually subordinated to the Class 6 Convertible Senior Note Claims, and because Holders of Class 6 Convertible Senior Note Claims will not be paid in full under the Plan, Holders of Class 8 6.75% Debenture Related Claims are entitled to receive no distribution under the Plan. However, as a settlement, and to facilitate a consensual Plan, Holders of General Unsecured Claims against the Substantively Consolidated Debtors and Tower, Inc. are allowed to share on a Pro Rata basis with Holders of Allowed Class 4.

Class 5 and Class 6 Claims in the Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets, to the extent any value is available from the Post-Consummation Trust for distribution.

# 3. CLASSIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF CLAIMS AND EQUITY INTERESTS

- (a) <u>Class 1—Other Priority Claims.</u>
  - (i) Classification: Class 1 consists of the Other Priority Claims against the Debtors.
  - (ii) Treatment: The legal, equitable and contractual rights of the Holders of Allowed Class 1 Claims are unaltered by the Plan. Unless otherwise agreed to by the Holders of the Allowed Class 1 Other Priority Claim and the Debtors, each Holder of an Allowed Class 1 Claim shall receive, in full and final satisfaction of such Allowed Class 1 Claim, payment of the Allowed Class 1 Claim in full in Cash on the Effective Date or as soon as practicable thereafter from the Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account. If the Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account is not sufficient to provide for the payment in full of all Allowed Other Priority Claims, the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator shall utilize the other assets (or proceeds thereof) of the Post-Consummation Trust (other than assets held in segregated accounts), to the extent necessary, to pay such Allowed Other Priority Claims in full.
  - (iii) *Voting*: Class 1 is an Unimpaired Class, and the Holders of Class 1 Claims are conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, the Holders of Class 1 Claims are not entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan; *provided*, *however*, that all Class 1 Claims shall be subject to Allowance under the provisions of the Plan, including, but not limited to, Article X of the Plan.

#### (b) Class 2—Other Secured Claims.

- (i) Classification: Class 2 consists of the Other Secured Claims against the Debtors.
- (ii) Treatment: Each Holder of an Allowed Class 2 Claim shall receive, in full and final satisfaction of such Allowed Class 2 Claim, payment in full in Cash of any such Allowed Other Secured Claim on the Effective Date or as soon practicable thereafter from the Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account. If the Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account is not sufficient to provide for the payment in full of all Allowed Other Secured Claims, the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator shall utilize the other assets (or proceeds thereof) of the Post-Consummation Trust (other than assets held in segregated accounts), to the extent necessary, to pay such Allowed Other Secured Claims in full.
- (iii) *Voting*: Class 2 is an Unimpaired Class, and the Holders of Class 2 Claims are conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, the Holders of Class 2 Claims are not entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan; *provided*, *however*, that all Class 2 Claims shall be subject to Allowance under the provisions of the Plan, including, but not limited to, Article X of the Plan.

#### (c) Class 3—Second Lien Claims

- (i) Classification: Class 3 consists of the Holders of Second Lien Claims against the Debtors.
- (ii) Allowance: The Second Lien Claim shall be an Allowed Secured Claim in the amount of the Second Lien Base Claim, without defense, offset, recoupment, counterclaim or reduction, other than as set forth in Article III.B.3. of the Plan. The

Second Lien Collateral Account Final Balance shall be paid to the Second Lien Agent for the Pro Rata benefit of the Second Lien Lenders on the Effective Date. Upon return of the Second Lien Collateral Account Final Balance to the Second Lien Agent for the Pro Rata benefit of the Second Lien Lenders, the Second Lien Claim shall be reduced and Allowed as a Secured Claim in the amount of Second Lien Adjusted Base Claim. The Second Lien Agent asserts that its Allowed Secured Claim includes, among other things, interest, fees and expenses (including financial advisory fees of at least \$4 million and legal fees in an unliquidated amount) and other costs payable pursuant to the Prepetition Credit Agreement and/or the Final DIP Order.

(iii) Treatment: On the Effective Date, the Second Lien Collateral Account Final Balance shall be returned to the Second Lien Agent for the Pro Rata benefit of the Second Lien Lenders and the Second Lien Adjusted Base Claim shall be paid in full in Cash. The Second Lien Facility shall be terminated upon payment of the Second Lien Collateral Account Final Balance and Cash in the amount of the Second Lien Adjusted Base Claim; provided, however, that the Second Lien Documents or other agreements that govern the rights of the Holder of a Claim and are administered by the First Lien Agent or the Second Lien Agent will continue in effect as and among the parties thereto other than the Debtors for purposes of (x) allowing such First Lien Agent or Second Lien Agent to make the distributions to be made on account of such Claims under the Plan and to perform such other necessary functions with respect thereto and to have the benefit of all protections and other provisions of such agreement in doing so, (y) permitting the Second Lien Agent and Second Lien Lenders to maintain and assert any rights and obligations thereunder against or among each other, and (z) permitting such First Lien Agent or Second Lien Agent to maintain and enforce any right to indemnifications, contribution or other Claim, defense or remedy that it may have under such agreement against any party thereto other than the Debtors.

In addition to the treatment above, (i) each undrawn Prepetition Letter of Credit will be returned to the issuer undrawn and marked canceled, and (ii) the Second Lien Agent's Fees incurred prior to the Effective Date, but not paid prior to or on the Effective Date, shall be paid within ten business days after submission of invoices to the Debtors, the Committee and the Purchaser, it being understood that nothing in this Article III.B.3 shall limit the Debtors' or the Committee's right to review and determine that such fees are reasonable, or the Purchaser's right to review and object to claims set forth in section 2.2 of the Purchase Agreement.

(iv) *Voting*: Class 3 is an Unimpaired Class, and the Holders of Class 3 Claims are conclusively deemed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code. Therefore, the Holders of Class 3 Claims are not entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### (d) <u>Class 4—International Holding Company Debtor Claims</u>

- (i) Classification: Class 4 consists of the Holders of International Holding Company Debtor Claims, including the R.J. Tower Bondholder Claims.
- (ii) Treatment: On or as soon as practicable after the Effective Date each Holder of an Allowed Class 4 Claim shall receive, in full and final satisfaction of its Allowed Class 4 Claim, its Pro Rata share of each of the International Holding Company Primary Recovery (which consists of 68% of the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets) and the International Holding Company Secondary Recovery (which consists of the Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets, if any).
- (iii) *Voting*: Class 4 is Impaired, and Holders of Class 4 Claims are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.
- (iv) Restriction on Recovery: The Post-Consummation Trust shall not make distributions to holders of Class 4 Claims until such time as all Post-Consummation Trust Senior Claims payable by the Post-Consummation Trust have been paid in full, or until an appropriate Disputed Claims Reserve has been established for the payment of all such Post-Consummation Trust Senior Claims.

# (e) <u>Class 5—R.J. Tower General Unsecured Claims</u>

- (i) *Classification*: Class 5 consists of the Holders of General Unsecured Claims against R.J. Tower, including the Holders of the R.J. Tower Bondholder Claims.
- (ii) Treatment: On or as soon as practicable after the Effective Date each Holder of an Allowed Class 5 Claim shall receive, in full and final satisfaction of its Allowed Class 5 Claim, its Pro Rata share of the R.J. Tower General Unsecured Claim Primary Recovery (which consists of 32% of the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets) and the R.J. Tower General Unsecured Claim Secondary Recovery (which consists of the Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets, if any).
- (iii) *Voting*: Class 5 is Impaired, and Holders of Class 5 Claims are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.
- (iv) Restriction on Recovery: The Post-Consummation Trust shall not make distributions to holders of Class 5 Claims until such time as all Post-Consummation Trust Senior Claims payable by the Post-Consummation Trust have been paid in full, or until an appropriate Disputed Claims Reserve has been established for the payment of all such Post-Consummation Trust Senior Claims.

#### (f) Class 6—5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims

- (i) *Classification*: Class 6 consists of the Holders of 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims against Tower, Inc.
- (ii) *Treatment*: On the Effective Date the Class 6 5.75% Convertible Senior Notes will be cancelled automatically without any further order of the Bankruptcy Court or the Debtors or the Indenture Trustee for the 5.75% Convertible Senior Notes and, as soon as practicable after the Effective Date, each Holder of an Allowed Class 6 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claim will receive a Pro Rata distribution of the Class 6 Recovery (which consists of the Pro-Rata share of the Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets, if any).

- (iii) *Voting*: Class 6 is Impaired, and Holders of Class 6 Claims are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.
- (iv) Restriction on Recovery: The Post-Consummation Trust shall not make distributions to holders of Class 6 Claims until such time as all Post-Consummation Trust Senior Claims payable by the Post-Consummation Trust have been paid in full, or until an appropriate Disputed Claims Reserve has been established for the payment of all such Post-Consummation Trust Senior Claims.

# (g) <u>Class 7— Other General Unsecured Claims</u>

- (i) Classification: Class 7 consists of the Holders of Class 7 General Unsecured Claims.
- (ii) Treatment: On the Effective Date the Class 7 General Unsecured Claims will be cancelled and, as soon as practicable after the Effective Date, each Holder of an Allowed Class 7 General Unsecured Claim will receive a Pro Rata distribution of the Class 7 Recovery (which consists of the Pro Rata share of the Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets, if any).
- (iii) *Voting*: Class 7 is Impaired, and Holders of Class 7 Claims are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.
- (iv) Restriction on Recovery: The Post-Consummation Trust shall not make distributions to holders of Class 7 Claims until such time as all Post-Consummation Trust Senior Claims payable by the Post-Consummation Trust have been paid in full, or until an appropriate Disputed Claims Reserve has been established for the payment of all such Post-Consummation Trust Senior Claims.

#### (h) Class 8— 6.75% Debenture Related Claims

- (i) *Classification*: Class 8 consists of the Holders of 6.75% Debenture Related Claims against Tower, Inc.
- (ii) Treatment: On the Effective Date the 6.75% Trust Preferred Securities will be cancelled and Holders of Class 8 6.75% Debenture Related Claims will receive no distribution on account of their Claims.
- (iii) *Voting*: Class 8 is Impaired and is conclusively deemed to reject the Plan. Holders of Class 8 6.75% Debenture Related Claims are not entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### (i) <u>Class 9—Equity Interests</u>

- (i) Classification: Class 9 consists of all Equity Interests in the Debtors.
- (ii) *Treatment*: On the Effective Date, all Class 9 Equity Interests shall be deemed cancelled, and shall be of no further force and effect, whether surrendered for cancellation or otherwise, and there shall be no distribution to the Holders of Class 9 Equity Interests.
- (iii) *Voting*: Class 9 is Impaired, and Holders of Class 9 Equity Interests are conclusively deemed to reject the Plan. Holders of Class 9 Equity Interests are therefore not entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 4. INTERCOMPANY CLAIMS

All Intercompany Claims will be cancelled as of the Effective Date, and Holders thereof will not receive a distribution under the Plan in respect of such Claims.

Pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 9019, the Plan incorporates a proposed compromise and settlement of all issues relating to the validity, enforceability and priority of Intercompany Claims and the substantive consolidation of certain of the Estates. Pursuant to the Plan, and in consideration for the distribution and other benefits under the Plan, upon the Effective Date, all Intercompany Claims shall be extinguished except as otherwise provided in Article III.C of the Plan. All parties who have held, hold or may hold Claims or Equity Interests in any or all of the Debtors are permanently enjoined from asserting or continuing in any manner any action related to the enforcement of the Intercompany Claims.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or the Plan, the Plan shall not affect and shall not be deemed to effect a waiver, cancellation, alteration or impairment of any subordination or related rights or obligations of any Person or Entity.

# 5. SPECIAL PROVISION GOVERNING UNIMPAIRED CLAIMS

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, nothing under the Plan shall affect the Debtors' rights in respect of any Unimpaired Claims, including, but not limited to, all rights in respect of legal and equitable defenses to or setoffs or recoupments against any such Unimpaired Claims.

#### 6. SPECIAL PROVISIONS REGARDING SUBORDINATED SECURITIES CLAIMS

All Subordinated Securities Claims will be cancelled as of the Effective Date, and Holders thereof will not receive a distribution under the Plan in respect of such Claims; provided, however, that notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in the Plan, any amendment to the Plan, or in the Confirmation Order shall impact in any way the right or ability of the lead plaintiffs in the Securities Litigation to pursue and recover on any Claims against the Debtors solely to the extent of any coverage provided by any insurance policy, including any directors and officers insurance policy.

Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, nothing in the Plan, any amendment to the Plan, or in the Confirmation Order shall release, enjoin, preclude, or otherwise affect in any way the prosecution of the claims asserted, or which may be asserted, against any non-Debtor in the Securities Litigation or the right of the lead plaintiffs in such litigation to (a) pursue further litigation, including without limitation appeals, against any non-Debtor defendants, or (b) to enter into or enforce any settlement or enforce any judgment obtained in connection therewith or relating thereto, provided, however, that notwithstanding the foregoing, the terms and conditions of that certain Stipulation and Order Between the Debtors On the One Hand and the Securities Plaintiffs on the Other Hand Resolving Debtors' Application for Order Reclassifying Securities Plaintiffs' Claims (Docket # 2395) shall remain in full force and effect.

# 7. SPECIAL PROVISIONS REGARDING THE TREATMENT OF ALLOWED SECONDARY LIABILITY CLAIMS

The classification and treatment of Allowed Claims under the Plan take into consideration all Allowed Secondary Liability Claims. On the Effective Date, Allowed Secondary Liability Claims will be treated as follows:

The Allowed Secondary Liability Claims arising from or related to any Debtor's joint or several liability for the obligations under any (a) Allowed Claim that is being reinstated under the Plan or (b) Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that is being assumed or deemed assumed by another Debtor or under any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that is being assumed by and assigned to another Debtor or any other Entity will be reinstated.

Except as provided in Article III.F of the Plan, Holders of Allowed Secondary Liability Claims will be entitled to only one distribution in respect of such underlying Allowed Claim from the Substantively Consolidated Debtors and only one distribution in respect of such underlying Allowed Claim from the International Holding Company Debtors. No multiple recovery on account of any Allowed Secondary Liability Claim will be provided or permitted.

#### D. ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF THE PLAN

#### 1. VOTING CLASSES

Each Holder of an Allowed Claim in each of the Voting Classes shall be entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan.

#### 2. ACCEPTANCE BY VOTING CLASSES

The Voting Classes shall have accepted the Plan if: (a) the Holders (other than any Holder designated under section 1126(e) of the Bankruptcy Code) of at least two-thirds in amount of the Allowed Claims actually voting in that Class have voted to accept the Plan; and (b) the Holders (other than any Holder designated under section 1126(e) of the Bankruptcy Code) of more than one-half in number of the Allowed Claims actually voting in that Class have voted to accept the Plan.

#### 3. PRESUMED ACCEPTANCE OF PLAN

Classes 1, 2 and 3 are Unimpaired under the Plan, and are therefore presumed to have accepted the Plan pursuant to section 1126(f) of the Bankruptcy Code.

#### 4. PRESUMED REJECTION OF PLAN

Classes 8 and 9 are Impaired and shall receive no distribution and are therefore presumed to have rejected the Plan pursuant to section 1126(g) of the Bankruptcy Code.

# 5. NON-CONSENSUAL CONFIRMATION

The Debtors reserve the right to seek Confirmation of the Plan under section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, to the extent applicable, in view of the deemed rejection by Classes 8 and 9. To the extent that any of the Voting Classes vote to reject the Plan, the Debtors further reserve the right to seek (a) Confirmation of the Plan under section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code; and/or (b) modify the Plan in accordance with Article XV.D of the Plan.

#### E. MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN

#### 1. SALE OF ASSETS

On the Effective Date the Debtors shall consummate the Sale Transaction and, among other things, the Acquired Assets including the Assumed Contracts, shall be transferred to the Purchaser free and clear of all Claims, Encumbrances (as defined in the Purchase Agreement) and Interests pursuant to the terms of the Purchase Agreement, Sale Order and Confirmation Order.

# 2. POST-CONSUMMATION TRUST

# (a) <u>Establishment of the Post-Consummation Trust</u>

On the Effective Date, the Debtors, on their own behalf and on behalf of the Beneficiaries, will execute the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement and will take all other steps necessary to establish the Post-Consummation Trust pursuant to the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement as further described in Article VIII in the Plan. On the Effective Date, and in accordance with and pursuant to the terms of the Plan, the Debtors will transfer to the Post-Consummation Trust all of their rights, title and interests in all of the Remaining Assets. In connection with the transfer of the Remaining Assets, any attorney client privilege, work product privilege, or other privilege or immunity attaching to any documents or communications (whether written or oral) transferred to the Post-Consummation Trust will vest in the Post-Consummation Trust and its representatives, and the Debtors and the Post-Consummation Trust are authorized to take all necessary actions to effectuate the transfer of such privileges.

#### (b) Funding Expenses of the Post Consummation Trust

As more fully described in the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement, Cash in the Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account will be applied in accordance with the terms of the Post-Consummation Trust Budget, first, to the fees, costs, expenses (each of the foregoing in amounts not to exceed amounts approved pursuant to the Post-Consummation Trust Budget) and liabilities of the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator, second, to satisfy any other administrative and Wind-Down Expenses of the Post-Consummation Trust (each of the foregoing in amounts not to exceed amounts approved pursuant to the Post-Consummation Trust Budget) and, third, to the distributions provided for pursuant to the Plan.

# (c) Appointment of the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator

On the Effective Date and in compliance with the provisions of the Plan, the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator will be appointed in accordance with the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement and the Post-Consummation Trust will be administered by the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator in accordance with the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement.

# 3. UNSECURED CREDITORS TRUST

# (a) Establishment of the Unsecured Creditors Trust

On the Effective Date, the Committee, on its own behalf and on behalf of the Beneficiaries of the Unsecured Creditors Trust, will execute the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement and will take all other steps necessary to establish the Unsecured Creditors Trust pursuant to the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement. On the Effective Date, and in accordance with and pursuant to the terms of the Plan and the Purchase Agreement, the Purchaser or the Successful Bidder, as appropriate, will transfer to the Unsecured Creditors Trust the Cash and/or Cash Equivalents portion of the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets and the Residual Chapter 5 Claims will be deemed to be transferred to the Unsecured Creditors Trust free and clear of all Claims and Interests pursuant to the terms of the Confirmation Order.

#### 4. RESTRUCTURING TRANSACTIONS

#### (a) <u>Restructuring Transactions Generally</u>

On or after the Confirmation Date, the applicable Debtors and/or Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator, or the Purchaser, consistent with Section 5.11 of the Purchase Agreement, may enter into Restructuring Transactions without further order of the Bankruptcy Court.

#### 5. SUBSTANTIVE CONSOLIDATION

The Plan is predicated on the substantive consolidation of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors, on the one hand, as well as the substantive consolidation of the International Holding Company Debtors, on the other hand, each for voting and distribution purposes only, all as set forth more fully in Article XI of the Plan.

# 6. CANCELLATION OF NOTES AND EQUITY INTERESTS

On the Effective Date, except to the extent otherwise provided in the Plan, all notes, stock, instruments, certificates, and other documents evidencing the 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, the 6.75% Trust Convertible Subordinated Debenture Claims, the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Claims, the 12% Senior Note Claims, and Equity Interests shall be cancelled, and the obligations of the Debtors thereunder or in any way related thereto shall be discharged. On the Effective Date, except to the extent otherwise provided in the Plan, any indenture relating to any of the foregoing, including but not limited to the 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Indenture, the 6.75% Trust Convertible Subordinated Debenture, the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Indenture and the 12% Senior Note Indenture shall be deemed to be canceled, as permitted by section 1123(a)(5)(F) of the Bankruptcy Code, and the obligations of the Debtors thereunder shall be discharged. The 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Indenture, the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Indenture and the 12% Senior Note Indenture shall continue in effect solely for the purposes of: (i) allowing Holders of the 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Claims and the 12% Senior Note Claims to receive distributions under the Plan; and (ii) allowing and preserving the rights of the Indenture Trustees under the 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Indenture, the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Indenture and the 12% Senior Note Indenture to (x) make distributions in satisfaction of Allowed 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Claims and the 12% Senior Note Claims, (y) exercise their respective charging liens against any such distributions, and (z) seek compensation and reimbursement for any fees and expenses incurred in making such distributions.

#### 7. CREATION OF RETAINED PROFESSIONAL ESCROW ACCOUNT

On the Effective Date, the Post-Consummation Trust shall establish the Retained Professional Escrow Account and reserve the amounts necessary to ensure the payment of all Accrued Professional Compensation.

# 8. RETENTION BY DEBTORS AND POST-CONSUMMATION TRUST OF OTHER ACTIONS

Subject to Article XIII.F of the Plan, all Other Actions, along with any associated recoveries, proceeds and settlements, shall remain the property of the Debtors' estates and shall be devised to the Post-Consummation Trust, provided, however, no Acquired Assets or Residual Chapter 5 Claims shall be devised to the Post-Consummation Trust.

# 9. CORPORATE ACTION

Upon the entry of the Confirmation Order by the Bankruptcy Court, all matters provided for under the Plan and the Purchase Agreement involving the corporate structure of the Debtors will be deemed authorized and approved without any requirement of further action by the Debtors, the Debtors' shareholders or the Debtors' boards of directors. On and after the Effective Date, the Post-Consummation Trust is authorized and directed to issue, execute and deliver the agreements, documents, and distributions contemplated by the Plan and the Purchase Agreement in the name of and on behalf of the Debtors.

#### 10. D&O TAIL COVERAGE POLICIES

To the extent provided under the Purchase Agreement, on the Effective Date the Debtors or the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator will obtain sufficient tail coverage, in an amount consistent with the level of coverage existing prior to the Effective Date, for a period of six years under a directors' and officers' insurance policy for the current and former officers and directors of the Debtors utilizing the Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account.

#### 11. ERISA SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

The Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator, after the Effective Date, shall pay \$2 million out of the Post-Consummation Indemnity Account pursuant to that the terms of the ERISA Settlement Agreement, it being understood that any refund paid to the Debtors under the ERISA Settlement Agreement up to \$2 million shall be returned to the Post-Consummation Indemnity Account.

# 12. SOURCES OF CASH FOR PLAN DISTRIBUTION

All Cash necessary for the Debtors, or the Trusts, as the case may be, to make payments pursuant to the Plan shall be obtained from the Sale Proceeds and the proceeds of the Post-Consummation Trust Assets and the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets, as the case may be.

# 13. RELEASE OF LIENS

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan or in any contract, instrument, release or other agreement or document entered into or delivered in connection with the Plan, on the Effective Date and concurrently with the applicable distributions made pursuant to Article III of the Plan, all Interests, mortgages, deeds of trust, liens or other security interests against the property of any Estate will be fully released and discharged.

Except as otherwise provided in the Purchase Agreement, on the Effective Date all Acquired Assets shall be transferred to the Purchaser free and clear of all Claims, Encumbrances or Interests pursuant to sections 105, 363, 365, 1123 and 1141(c) of the Bankruptcy Code.

On the Effective Date the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets shall be transferred to the Unsecured Creditors Trust free and clear of all Claims, Encumbrances or Interests.

# 14. EFFECTUATING DOCUMENTS; FURTHER TRANSACTIONS; EXEMPTION FROM CERTAIN TRANSFER TAXES

The chief executive officer or chief financial officer of each Debtor will be authorized to execute, deliver, file or record such contracts, instruments, releases and other agreements or documents and take such actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate and implement the provisions of the Plan and the Purchase Agreement. The secretary and any assistant secretary of each Debtor will be authorized to certify or attest to any of the foregoing actions. Pursuant to section 1146 of the Bankruptcy Code, the following will not be subject to any stamp tax, real estate transfer tax or similar tax: (1) the Sale Transaction; (2) the creation of any mortgage, deed of trust, lien or other security interest; (3) the making or assignment of any lease or sublease; (4) any Restructuring Transaction; or (6) the making or delivery of any deed or other instrument of transfer under, in furtherance of or in connection with the Plan, including (a) any merger agreements; (b) agreements of consolidation, restructuring, disposition, liquidation or dissolution; (c) deeds; (d) bills of sale or (e) assignments executed in connection with any Restructuring Transaction pursuant to the Plan.

#### 15. MODIFICATION OF RETIREE BENEFITS

The Plan is predicated on obtaining the relief requested in the Second 1114 Motion, to the extent the Second 1114 Motion is filed, or the approval of the Retiree Benefit Settlements (as defined in the Purchase Agreement).

# F. TREATMENT OF EXECUTORY CONTRACTS AND UNEXPIRED LEASES

# 1. ASSUMPTION AND REJECTION OF EXECUTORY CONTRACTS AND UNEXPIRED LEASES

#### (a) Assumption and Assignment of Assumed Contracts

The Debtors will assume and assign the Assumed Contracts to the Purchaser pursuant to the terms of the Purchase Agreement. The designation of a contract or lease as an Assumed Contract shall not be deemed an admission that such contract or lease constitutes an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease.

#### (b) Assumption and Assignment of Retained Contracts

The Debtors will assume and assign the Retained Contracts, if any, to the Post-Consummation Trust. The designation of a contract or lease as a Retained Contract shall not be deemed an admission that such contract or lease constitutes an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease.

# (c) Approval of Assumptions and Assignments

The Confirmation Order and the Sale Order shall constitute orders of the Bankruptcy Court approving the assumptions and assignments described in Article VI.A of the Plan, pursuant to sections 365 and 1123 of the Bankruptcy Code, as of the Effective Date. An order of the Bankruptcy Court entered on or prior to the Confirmation Date will specify the procedures for providing notice to each party whose Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease is being assumed or assumed and assigned pursuant to the Plan of: (a) the contract or lease being assumed or assumed and assigned; (b) the cure amount, if any, that the applicable Debtor believes it would be obligated to pay in connection with such assumption; and (c) the procedures for such party to object to the assumption or assumption and assignment of the applicable contract or lease or the amount of the proposed cure claim.

#### 2. EXECUTORY CONTRACTS AND UNEXPIRED LEASES TO BE REJECTED

On the Effective Date, except for an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that was previously assumed, assumed and assigned or rejected by an order of the Bankruptcy Court or that is assumed pursuant to Article VI.A of the Plan, each Executory Contract and Unexpired Lease entered into by a Debtor prior to the Petition Date that has not previously expired or terminated pursuant to its own terms will be rejected pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Confirmation Order will constitute an order of the Bankruptcy Court approving such rejections pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code as of the Effective Date. Within five (5) days after the Effective Date, the Debtors will serve each party to an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that is being rejected with notice of such rejection.

# 3. CLAIMS BASED ON REJECTION OF EXECUTORY CONTRACTS OR UNEXPIRED LEASES

All proofs of claim arising from the rejection (if any) of Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases must be filed with the Voting Agent within thirty (30) days after the earlier of: (a) the date of entry of an order of the Bankruptcy Court approving any such rejection; and (b) the date of service of notice of the rejection of the applicable Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease. Any Claims arising from the rejection of an Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease for which proofs of claim were not timely Filed within that time period will be forever barred from assertion against the Debtors or their Estates and property, or the Trusts, unless otherwise ordered by the Bankruptcy Court or as otherwise provided in the Plan. All such Claims shall, as of the Effective Date, be subject to the permanent injunction set forth in Article XIII.G of the Plan.

# 4. CURE OF DEFAULTS FOR EXECUTORY CONTRACTS AND UNEXPIRED LEASES ASSUMED PURSUANT TO THE PLAN

Any monetary amounts by which any Executory Contract and Unexpired Lease to be assumed pursuant to the Plan (including pursuant to Article VI.A of the Plan) or otherwise is in default shall be satisfied, pursuant to section 365(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, by payment of the default amount in Cash on the Effective Date or on such other terms as the parties to each such Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease may otherwise agree, with all such amounts to be payable by the Debtors out of the Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account. If the Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account is not sufficient to provide for payment in full of all cure amounts, the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator shall utilize the other assets (or proceeds thereof) of the Post-Consummation Trust (other than assets held in segregated accounts), to the extent necessary, to pay such cure amounts in full. In the event of a dispute regarding: (a) the amount of any cure payments; (b) the ability of the Purchaser or any assignee to provide "adequate assurance of future performance" (within the meaning of section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code) under the contract or lease to be assumed; or (c) any other matter pertaining to assumption; the cure payments required by section 365(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code shall be made following the entry of a Final Order resolving the dispute and approving the assumption of any Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases.

# 5. ASSUMPTION OF D&O INSURANCE POLICIES

As of the Effective Date, the Post-Consummation Trust shall be deemed to have assumed all of the Debtors' directors' and officers' liability insurance policies pursuant to section 365(a) of the Bankruptcy Code. Entry of the Confirmation Order will constitute the Bankruptcy Court's approval of the foregoing assumption of each of the directors' and officers' liability insurance policies. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Plan, Confirmation of the Plan shall not discharge, impair or otherwise modify any indemnity obligations assumed by the foregoing assumption of the directors' and officers' liability insurance policies, and each such indemnity obligation will be deemed and treated as an Executory Contract that has been assigned to the Post-Consummation Trust as to which no proof of claim need be Filed.

# 6. PENSION PLAN

R.J. Tower, a wholly owned subsidiary of Tower, Inc., currently sponsors and maintains one defined benefit pension plan known as The Tower Automotive Consolidated Pension Plan (the "Pension Plan"). Purchaser intends to assume the Pension Plan on an on-going basis and will be liable to fund the Pension Plan in accordance with the minimum funding standards under the Internal Revenue Code and ERISA, pay all required PBGC insurance premiums, and continue to administer and operate the Pension Plan in accordance with the terms of the Pension Plan and provisions of ERISA. The Pension Plan is covered by Title IV of the Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA") (29 U.S.C. § et seq.).

The PBGC is the wholly-owned United States government corporation and agency of the United States created under Title IV of ERISA to administer the federal pension insurance programs and enforce compliance with the provisions of Title IV. PBGC guarantees the payment of certain pension benefits upon termination of a pension plan covered by Title IV.

Purchaser and all members of its controlled group, will be obligated to pay the contributions necessary to satisfy the minimum funding standards under section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code and section 302 of ERISA. 26 U.S.C. § 412(c)(11), 29 U.S.C. § 1082(c)(11).

PBGC has filed an estimated contingent claim in the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases against each Debtor for unfunded benefit liabilities owed to the Tower Automotive Pension Plan and the Tower Automotive UAW Retirement Income Plan (the predecessor plans to the Pension Plan) in the approximate amount of \$182,900,000 and \$7,700,000, respectively. PBGC has also filed unliquidated claims for statutory premiums owed to PBGC and minimum funding contributions owed to each of the Pension Plans. Upon the closing on the sale of the Debtors' assets to the Purchaser and upon the Purchaser's continuation of the Pension Plan, PBGC will withdraw its claims against the Debtors' bankruptcy estates.

#### G. PROVISIONS GOVERNING DISTRIBUTIONS

#### 1. DISTRIBUTIONS FOR CLAIMS ALLOWED AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan or as may be ordered by the Bankruptcy Court, all distributions with respect to all Allowed Claims that are not Assumed Liabilities shall be made by the Trusts, as set forth in the Plan. As described in Articles VIII and IX of the Plan, the Trusts shall make distributions on the Effective Date or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter to their respective Beneficiaries, and shall make further distributions to Holders of Claims that subsequently are determined to be Allowed Claims, pursuant to the Plan.

# 2. DELIVERY AND DISTRIBUTIONS AND UNDELIVERABLE OR UNCLAIMED DISTRIBUTIONS

# (a) <u>Delivery of Distributions in General</u>

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims as of the Distribution Record Date shall be made at the address of the Holder of such Claim as indicated on the records of the Debtors or the Trusts, as the case may be, as of the date such distribution is made. Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, the Trusts shall make distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims at the address for each such Holder indicated on the Debtors' records on the date of any such distribution; *provided*, *however*, that the manner of such distributions shall be determined at the discretion of the Debtors or Trusts, as the case may be; and *provided further* that the address for each Holder of an Allowed Claim shall be deemed to be the address set forth in any proof of Claim filed by that Allowed Claim Holder.

All distributions to Holders of 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Claims, and the 12% Senior Note Claims shall be governed by the 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Indenture, the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Indenture and the 12% Senior Note Indenture, respectively. Notwithstanding any provisions in the Plan to contrary, the 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Indenture, the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Indenture and the 12% Senior Note Indenture will continue in effect to the extent necessary to (i) allow the respective Indenture Trustees to receive and make distributions pursuant to the Plan on account of the Allowed Claims of Holders of 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Claims, and the 12% Senior Note Claims, (ii) exercise their respective charging liens against any such distributions, and (iii) seek compensation and reimbursement for any fees and expenses incurred in making such distributions.

# (b) <u>Distributions by Distribution Agent(s)</u>

The Debtors and the Trusts, as applicable, shall have the authority, in their sole discretion, to enter into agreements with one or more Distribution Agents, to facilitate the solicitation of votes on the Plan and distributions required under the Plan. As a condition to serving as a Distribution Agent, a Distribution Agent must (i) affirm its obligation to facilitate the prompt distribution of any documents or solicitation materials, (ii) affirm its obligation to facilitate the prompt distribution of any recoveries or distributions required under the Plan, and (iii) waive any right or ability to setoff, deduct from, or assert any lien or encumbrance against the distributions required under the Plan that are to be distributed by such Distribution Agent. In consideration for waiving its rights to setoff, deduct from or assert any lien or encumbrance against such distributions, the Debtors or the Trusts, as applicable, shall pay all reasonable fees and expenses of such Distribution Agent. The Distribution Agent shall submit detailed invoices to the Debtors or the Trusts, as applicable, for all fees and expenses for which the Distribution Agent seeks reimbursement without the need for further Bankruptcy Court approval. The Debtors or the Trusts, as applicable,

upon review of such invoices, shall pay those amounts that the Debtors or the Trusts, as applicable, in their sole discretion, deem reasonable, and shall object in writing to those fees and expenses, if any, that the Debtors or the Trusts, as applicable, deem to be unreasonable. In the event that the Debtors or the Trusts, as applicable, object to all or any portion of a Distribution Agent's invoice, the Debtors or the Trusts, as applicable, and such Distribution Agent will endeavor, in good faith, to reach mutual agreement on the amount of such disputed fees and/or expenses. In the event that the Debtors or the Trusts, as applicable, and a Distribution Agent are unable to resolve any differences regarding disputed fees or expenses, either party shall be authorized to move to have such dispute heard by the Bankruptcy Court.

#### (c) Undeliverable Distributions

# (i) Holding of Certain Undeliverable Distributions.

If any distribution to a Holder of an Allowed Claim is returned to the Trusts as undeliverable, no further distributions shall be made to such Holder unless and until the Trusts are notified in writing of such Holder's then current address. Undeliverable distributions shall remain in the possession of the Trusts, subject to Article VII.B.3(b) of the Plan, until such time as any such distributions become deliverable. Undeliverable Cash shall not be entitled to any interest, dividends or other accruals of any kind. As soon as reasonably practicable, the Trusts shall make all distributions that become deliverable.

#### (ii) Failure to Claim Undeliverable Distributions.

In an effort to ensure that all Holders of Allowed Claims receive their allocated distributions, ninety (90) days after the Effective Date, the Post-Consummation Trust, in consultation with the Unsecured Creditors Trust, will file with the Bankruptcy Court a listing of the Holders of undeliverable distributions. This list will be maintained for as long as the Chapter 11 Cases stay open. Any Holder of an Allowed Claim, irrespective of when a Claim became an Allowed Claim, that does not assert a Claim pursuant to the Plan for an undeliverable distribution (regardless of when not deliverable) within the later of (i) one year after the Effective Date, and (ii) sixty days after the date such Claim becomes an Allowed Claim shall have its Claim for such undeliverable distribution discharged and shall be forever barred from asserting any such Claim against the Trusts or its respective property. In such cases any Cash held for distribution on account of such Claims shall be property of the Trusts, free of any restrictions thereon. Nothing contained in the Plan shall require the Trusts to attempt to locate any Holder of an Allowed Claim.

#### (d) Compliance with Tax Requirements/Allocations

In connection with the Plan, to the extent applicable, the Trusts shall comply with all tax withholding and reporting requirements imposed on them by any governmental unit, and all distributions pursuant to the Plan shall be subject to such withholding and reporting requirements. For tax purposes, distributions received by Holders in full or partial satisfaction of Allowed Claims will be allocated first to the principal amount of Allowed Claims, with any excess allocated unpaid interest that accrued on such Claims.

# 3. TIMING AND CALCULATION OF AMOUNTS TO BE DISTRIBUTED

On the Effective Date or as soon as practicable thereafter (or if a Claim is not an Allowed Claim on the Effective Date, on the date that such a Claim becomes an Allowed Claim or as soon as practicable thereafter), each Holder of an Allowed Claim against the Debtors shall receive the full amount of the distributions that the Plan provides for Allowed Claims in the applicable Class. If and to the extent that there are Disputed Claims, distributions on account of any such Disputed Claims shall be made pursuant to the provisions set forth in Article X of the Plan. Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, or as required under applicable law, Holders of Claims shall not be entitled to interest on the distributions provided for in the Plan, regardless of whether such distributions are delivered on or at any time after the Effective Date.

# 4. MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION

Any other provision of the Plan notwithstanding, the Trusts will not be required to make distributions or payments of less than \$50 (whether cash or otherwise), and will likewise not be required to make distributions or payments of fractions of dollars. Whenever any payment of a fraction of a dollar under the Plan would otherwise be called for, the actual payment will reflect a rounding of such fraction to the nearest whole dollar (up or down), with half dollars or less being rounded down.

If, at any time, only *de minimis* assets remain in the Post-Consummation Trust after Post-Consummation Trust Senior Claims have been paid in full, the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator may, in its sole discretion, distribute such assets to a charity, as set forth in the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement. If, at any time, only *de minimis* assets remain in the Unsecured Creditors Trust, the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator may, in its sole discretion, distribute such assets to a charity, as set forth in the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement.

#### 5. SETOFFS

The Debtors and the Trusts may, pursuant to section 553 of the Bankruptcy Code or applicable non bankruptcy law, set off against any Allowed Claim and the distributions to be made pursuant to the Plan on account of such Allowed Claim (before any distribution is made on account of such Allowed Claim), the claims, equity interests, rights and Causes of Action of any nature that the Debtors or the Trusts may hold against the Holder of any such Allowed Claim; provided that neither the failure to effect such a setoff nor the allowance of any Claim under the Plan shall constitute a waiver or release by the Debtors or the Trusts of any such claims, equity interests, rights and Causes of Action that the Debtors or the Trusts may possess against any such Holder, except as specifically provided in the Plan.

#### 6. SURRENDER OF CANCELLED INSTRUMENTS OR SECURITIES

As a condition precedent to receiving any distribution on account of its Allowed Claim, each record Holder of a 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claim, 9.25% Senior Euro Note Claim, or 12% Senior Note Claim shall be deemed to have surrendered the certificates or other documentation underlying each such Claim, and all such surrendered certificates and other documentations shall be deemed to be canceled, except to the extent otherwise provided in the Plan. The Indenture Trustees may (but shall not be required to) request registered Holders to surrender their notes for cancellation.

# H. THE POST-CONSUMMATION TRUST; THE POST-CONSUMMATION TRUST PLAN ADMINISTRATOR

#### 1. GENERALLY

The powers, authority, responsibilities and duties of the Post Consummation Trust and the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator are set forth in and will be governed by the Post Consummation Trust Agreement. The Debtors, in consultation with the Committee, will designate the initial Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator.

#### 2. PURPOSE OF THE POST CONSUMMATION TRUST

The Post-Consummation Trust will be established for the primary purpose of liquidating its assets with no objective to continue or engage in the conduct of a trade or business, except to the extent reasonably necessary to, and consistent with, the liquidating purpose of the Post-Consummation Trust. Upon the transfer of the Post-Consummation Trust Assets, the Debtors will have no reversionary or further interest in or with respect to the Post-Consummation Trust Assets or the Post-Consummation Trust. For all federal income tax purposes, the Beneficiaries of the Post-Consummation Trust will be treated as grantors and owners thereof and it is intended that the Post-Consummation Trust be classified as a liquidating trust under Section 301.7701 4 of the Treasury Regulations and that such trust is owned by the Beneficiaries. Accordingly, for federal income tax purposes, it is intended that the Beneficiaries be treated as if they had received a distribution of an undivided interest in the Post-Consummation Trust Assets and then contributed such interests to the Post-Consummation Trust. Accordingly, the Post-Consummation Trust will, in an expeditious but orderly manner, liquidate and convert to Cash the Post-Consummation Trust Assets, make timely distributions to the Beneficiaries pursuant to the Plan and not unduly prolong its duration. The Post-Consummation Trust will not be deemed a successor in interest of the Debtors for any purpose other than as specifically set forth in the Plan or in the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement. The Post-Consummation Trust is intended to qualify as a "grantor trust" for federal income tax purposes with the Beneficiaries treated as grantors and owners of the trust.

#### 3. TRANSFER OF ASSETS TO THE POST-CONSUMMATION TRUST

The Debtors and the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator will establish the Post-Consummation Trust on behalf of the Beneficiaries pursuant to the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement, with the Beneficiaries to be treated as the grantors and deemed owners of the Post-Consummation Trust Assets. The Debtors will, as set forth in the Plan, transfer, assign and deliver to the Post-Consummation Trust, on behalf of the Beneficiaries, all of their rights, titles and interests in the Post-Consummation Trust Assets, including any claims, rights and Causes of Action that the Debtors may hold against any Entity, but not including any Acquired Assets or Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets, in accordance with the provisions in the Plan, notwithstanding any prohibition of assignability under non-bankruptcy law. The Post-Consummation Trust will agree to accept and hold the Post-Consummation Trust Assets in the Post-Consummation Trust for the benefit of the Beneficiaries, subject to the terms of the Plan and the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement.

On the Effective Date, the Debtors will transfer the Post-Consummation Trust Assets to the Post-Consummation Trust for the benefit of the Beneficiaries. Notwithstanding any prohibition of assignability under applicable non bankruptcy law, all the Remaining Assets will vest in the Post-Consummation Trust in accordance with section 1141 of the Bankruptcy Code. Upon the transfer of the Post-Consummation Trust Assets to the Post-Consummation Trust, the Debtors will have no interest in or with respect to such Post-Consummation Trust Assets or the Post-Consummation Trust.

#### 4. DISTRIBUTION; WITHHOLDING

The Post-Consummation Trust will make distributions to the Beneficiaries of the Post-Consummation Trust as provided in the Plan, and pursuant to the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement. The Post-Consummation Trust may withhold from amounts distributable to any Person any and all amounts, determined in the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator's sole discretion, to be required by the Plan, any law, regulation, rule, ruling, directive or other governmental requirement.

#### 5. INSURANCE

The Post-Consummation Trust will maintain customary insurance coverage for the protection of Persons serving as administrators and overseers of the Post-Consummation Trust on and after the Effective Date.

#### 6. POST-CONSUMMATION TRUST IMPLEMENTATION

On the Effective Date, the Post-Consummation Trust will be established and become effective for the benefit of the Holders of Allowed Claims entitled to distributions from the Post-Consummation Trust under the Plan. The Post-Consummation Trust Agreement will contain provisions customary to trust agreements utilized in comparable circumstances, including, but not limited to, any and all provisions necessary to ensure the continued treatment of the Post-Consummation Trust as a grantor trust and the Beneficiaries as the grantors and owners thereof for federal income tax purposes. All parties (including the Debtors, the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator and the Beneficiaries) will execute any documents or other instruments as necessary to cause title to the Remaining Assets to be transferred to the Post-Consummation Trust.

#### 7. DISPUTED CLAIMS RESERVE

The Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator will maintain, in accordance with the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator's powers and responsibilities under the Plan and the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement, a Disputed Claims Reserve. The Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator will, in its sole discretion, distribute such amounts (net of any expenses, including any taxes relating thereto), as provided in the Plan and in the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement, as such Disputed Claims are resolved by Final Order, and such amounts will be distributable in respect of such Disputed Claims as such amounts would have been distributable had the Disputed Claims been Allowed Claims as of the Effective Date. The Post-Consummation Trust will pay taxes on the taxable net income or gain allocable to Holders of Disputed Claims on behalf of such Holders and, when such Disputed Claims are ultimately resolved, Holders whose Disputed Claims are determined to be Allowed Claims will receive distributions from the Post-Consummation Trust net of the taxes that the Post-Consummation Trust previously paid on their behalf.

# 8. TERMINATION OF THE POST-CONSUMMATION TRUST

The Post-Consummation Trust will terminate as soon as practicable, but in no event later than the fifth anniversary of the Effective Date; provided that, on or later than the date six months prior to such termination, the Bankruptcy Court, upon motion by a party in interest, may extend the term of the Post-Consummation Trust for a finite period if such an extension is necessary to liquidate the Post-Consummation Trust Assets or to complete any distribution required under the Plan. Notwithstanding the foregoing, multiple extensions may be obtained so long as (1) Bankruptcy Court approval is obtained no more than six months prior to the expiration of each extended term and (2) the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator receives an opinion of counsel or a favorable ruling from the Internal Revenue Service that any further extension would not adversely affect the status of the Post-Consummation Trust as a grantor trust for federal income tax purposes. If only *de minimis* assets remain after Post-Consummation Trust Senior Claims have been paid in full, the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator, in its sole discretion, may distribute such assets to a charity.

#### 9. TERMINATION OF THE POST-CONSUMMATION TRUST PLAN ADMINISTRATOR

The duties, responsibilities and powers of the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator will terminate in accordance with the terms of the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement.

#### 10. EXCULPATION; INDEMNIFICATION

The Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator, the Post-Consummation Trust, the professionals of the Post-Consummation Trust and their representatives will be exculpated and indemnified pursuant to the terms of the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement.

#### 11. COOPERATION WITH UNSECURED CREDITORS TRUST

The Post-Consummation Trust and the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator shall reasonably cooperate with the Unsecured Creditors Trust and the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator to facilitate the administration of the Trusts, including, but not limited to the sharing of information related to Claims and any Disputed Claims Reserve.

# I. THE UNSECURED CREDITORS TRUST; THE UNSECURED TRUST PLAN ADMINISTRATOR

#### 1. GENERALLY

The powers, authority, responsibilities and duties of the Unsecured Creditors Trust and the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator are set forth in and will be governed by the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement. The Committee will designate the initial Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator.

# 2. PURPOSE OF THE UNSECURED CREDITORS TRUST

The Unsecured Creditors Trust will be established for the primary purpose of liquidating its assets with no objective to continue or engage in the conduct of a trade or business, except to the extent reasonably necessary to, and consistent with, the liquidating purpose of the Unsecured Creditors Trust. Upon the transfer by the Debtors and the Purchaser, respectively, of the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets, the Debtors and Purchaser will have no reversionary or further interest in or with respect to the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets or the Unsecured Creditors Trust. For all federal income tax purposes, the Beneficiaries of the Unsecured Creditors Trust will be treated as grantors and owners thereof and it is intended that the Unsecured Creditors Trust be classified as a liquidating trust under Section 301.7701 4 of the Treasury Regulations and that such trust is owned by the Beneficiaries of the Unsecured Creditors Trust. Accordingly, for federal income tax purposes, it is intended that the Beneficiaries of the Unsecured Creditors Trust be treated as if they had received a distribution of an undivided interest in the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets and then contributed such interests to the Unsecured Creditors Trust. Accordingly, the Unsecured Creditors Trust will, in an expeditious but orderly manner, liquidate and convert to Cash the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets, make timely distributions to the Beneficiaries of the Unsecured Creditors Trust pursuant to the Plan and the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement and not unduly prolong its duration. The Unsecured Creditors Trust will not be deemed a successor in interest of the Debtors for any purpose other than as specifically set forth in the Plan or in the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement. The Unsecured Creditors Trust is intended to

qualify as a "grantor trust" for federal income tax purposes with the Beneficiaries of the Unsecured Creditors Trust treated as grantors and owners of the trust.

#### 3. TRANSFER OF ASSETS TO THE UNSECURED CREDITORS TRUST

The Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator will establish the Unsecured Creditors Trust on behalf of its Beneficiaries pursuant to the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement, with the Beneficiaries of the Unsecured Creditors Trust to be treated as the grantors and deemed owners of the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets. On the Effective Date, the Purchaser or Successful Bidder, as appropriate, will transfer to the Unsecured Creditors Trust the consideration provided pursuant to the Purchase Agreement for the benefit of the Beneficiaries of the Unsecured Creditors Trust. The Debtors will, as set forth in the Plan, transfer, assign and deliver to the Unsecured Creditors Trust, on behalf of the Beneficiaries of the Unsecured Creditors Trust, the Residual Chapter 5 Claims as set forth in the Purchase Agreement, in accordance with the provisions in the Plan, notwithstanding any prohibition of assignability under non-bankruptcy law. The Unsecured Creditors Trust will agree to accept and hold the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets in the Unsecured Creditors Trust for the benefit of the Beneficiaries of the Unsecured Creditors Trust, subject to the terms of the Plan and the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement.

#### 4. DISTRIBUTION; WITHHOLDING

The Unsecured Creditors Trust will make distributions to the Beneficiaries of the Unsecured Creditors Trust pursuant to the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement. The Unsecured Creditors Trust may withhold from amounts distributable to any Person any and all amounts, determined in the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator's sole discretion, to be required by the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement, any law, regulation, rule, ruling, directive or other governmental requirement.

# 5. INSURANCE

The Unsecured Creditors Trust will maintain customary insurance coverage, if appropriate and available, for the protection of Persons serving as administrators and overseers of the Unsecured Creditors Trust on and after the Effective Date.

# 6. UNSECURED CREDITORS TRUST IMPLEMENTATION

On the Effective Date, the Unsecured Creditors Trust will be established and become effective for the benefit of the Beneficiaries of the Unsecured Creditors Trust entitled to distributions from the Unsecured Creditors Trust under the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement. The Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement will contain provisions customary to trust agreements utilized in comparable circumstances, including, but not limited to, any and all provisions necessary to ensure the continued treatment of the Unsecured Creditors Trust as a grantor trust and the Beneficiaries of the Unsecured Creditors Trust as the grantors and owners thereof for federal income tax purposes.

#### 7. DISPUTED CLAIMS RESERVE

The Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator will maintain, in accordance with the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator's powers and responsibilities under the Plan and the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement, a Disputed Claims Reserve. The Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator will, in its sole discretion, distribute such amounts (net of any expenses, including any taxes relating thereto), as provided in the Plan and in the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement, as such Disputed Claims are resolved by Final Order, and such amounts will be distributable in respect of such Disputed Claims as such amounts would have been distributable had the Disputed Claims been Allowed Claims as of the Effective Date. The Unsecured Creditors Trust will pay taxes on the taxable net income or gain allocable to Holders of Disputed Claims on behalf of such Holders and, when such Disputed Claims are ultimately resolved, Holders whose Disputed Claims are determined to be Allowed Claims will receive distributions from the Unsecured Creditors Trust net of the taxes that the Unsecured Creditors Trust previously paid on their behalf.

# 8. TERMINATION OF THE UNSECURED CREDITORS TRUST

The Unsecured Creditors Trust will terminate as soon as practicable, but in no event later than the fifth anniversary of the Effective Date; provided that, on or later than the date six months prior to such termination, the

Bankruptcy Court, upon motion by a party in interest, may extend the term of the Unsecured Creditors Trust for a finite period if such an extension is necessary to liquidate the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets or to complete any distribution required under the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, multiple extensions may be obtained so long as (1) Bankruptcy Court approval is obtained no more than six months prior to the expiration of each extended term and (2) the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator receives an opinion of counsel or a favorable ruling from the Internal Revenue Service that any further extension would not adversely affect the status of the Unsecured Creditors Trust as a grantor trust for federal income tax purposes.

#### 9. TERMINATION OF THE UNSECURED CREDITORS TRUST PLAN ADMINISTRATOR

The duties, responsibilities and powers of the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator will terminate in accordance with the terms of the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement.

#### 10. EXCULPATION; INDEMNIFICATION

The Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator, the Unsecured Creditors Trust, the professionals of the Unsecured Creditors Trust and their representatives will be exculpated and indemnified pursuant to the terms of the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement.

#### 11. COOPERATION WITH POST-CONSUMMATION TRUST

The Unsecured Creditors Trust and the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator shall reasonably cooperate with the Post-Consummation Trust and the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator to facilitate the administration of the Trusts, including, but not limited to the sharing of information related to Claims and any Disputed Claims Reserve.

# J. PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING DISPUTED, CONTINGENT AND UNLIQUIDATED CLAIMS OR EQUITY INTERESTS

#### 1. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTED CLAIMS

# (a) <u>Prosecution of Claims Objections</u>

Except as set forth in the Purchase Agreement, the Debtors, prior to the Effective Date, and thereafter the Trusts with respect to Claims filed by Beneficiaries of the respective Trusts, shall have the exclusive authority to file objections on or before the Claims Objection Bar Date, settle, compromise, withdraw or litigate to judgment objections to any and all Claims, regardless of whether classified or otherwise. From and after the Effective Date, the Trusts may settle or compromise any Disputed Claim without approval of the Bankruptcy Court; provided, however, in the event the Purchaser objects to any Claim in accordance with the terms of the Purchase Agreement, the Post-Consummation Trust may not settle or compromise the Disputed Claim without (a) the written consent of the Purchaser or (b) order of the Bankruptcy Court. An objection is deemed to have been timely Filed as to all Tort Claims, thus making each such Claim a Disputed Claim as of the Claims Objection Bar Date. Each such Tort Claim will remain a Disputed Claim until it becomes an Allowed Claim.

#### (b) <u>Claims Estimation</u>

Before the Effective Date, the Debtors, and after the Effective Date, the Trusts with respect to Claims filed by Beneficiaries of the respective Trusts, may, at any time, request that the Bankruptcy Court estimate any contingent or unliquidated Claim pursuant to section 502(c) of the Bankruptcy Code regardless of whether the Debtors or the Trusts have previously objected to such Claim or whether the Bankruptcy Court has ruled on any such objection, and the Bankruptcy Court will retain jurisdiction to estimate any Claim at any time during litigation concerning any objection to any Claim, including during the pendency of any appeal relating to any such objection. In the event that the Bankruptcy Court estimates any contingent or unliquidated Claim, that estimated amount will constitute either the Allowed amount of such Claim or a maximum limitation on such Claim, as determined by the Bankruptcy Court. If the estimated amount constitutes a maximum limitation on such Claim, the Debtors or the relevant Trust may elect to pursue any supplemental proceedings to object to any ultimate payment on such Claim. All of the aforementioned Claims and objection, estimation and resolution procedures are cumulative and not necessarily exclusive of one another. Claims may be estimated and subsequently compromised, settled, withdrawn or resolved by any mechanism approved by the Bankruptcy Court.

# (c) Payments and Distributions on Disputed Claims, In General

Notwithstanding any provision in the Plan to the contrary, except as otherwise agreed by the Plan Administrators in their respective sole discretion, no partial payments and no partial distributions will be made with respect to a Disputed Claim until the resolution of any such disputes by settlement or Final Order. On the date or, if such date is not a Business Day, on the next successive Business Day that is 20 calendar days after the end of the calendar quarter in which a Disputed Claim becomes an Allowed Claim, the Holder of such Allowed Claim will receive all payments and distributions to which that Holder is then entitled under the Plan. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any Holder of both an Allowed Claim and a Disputed Claim in the same Class of Claims will not receive payment or distribution in satisfaction of any such Allowed Claim, except as otherwise agreed by the Plan Administrators in their respective sole discretion or ordered by the Bankruptcy Court, until all such Disputed Claims are resolved by settlement or Final Order. In the event that there are Claims that require adjudication or other resolution, the Debtors and Post-Consummation Trust reserve the right to, or shall upon an order of the Bankruptcy Court, establish appropriate reserves for potential payment of any such Claims.

#### 2. CLAIMS ALLOWANCE

Except as expressly provided in the Plan or in any order entered in the Chapter 11 Cases prior to the Effective Date (including the Confirmation Order), no Claim shall be deemed Allowed unless and until such Claim is deemed Allowed under the Plan or the Bankruptcy Code or the Bankruptcy Court has entered a Final Order (including the Confirmation Order) in the Chapter 11 Cases allowing such Claim. Except as expressly provided in the Plan or any order entered in the Chapter 11 Cases prior to the Effective Date (including the Confirmation Order), the Trusts will have and shall retain after the Effective Date any and all rights and defenses that the Debtors had with respect to any Claim as of the Petition Date. All Claims of any Person or Entity subject to section 502(d) of the Bankruptcy Code shall be deemed disallowed as of the Effective Date unless and until such Person or Entity pays in full the amount that it owes such Debtor.

#### 3. CONTROVERSY CONCERNING IMPAIRMENT

If a controversy arises as to whether any Claims or any Class of Claims are Impaired under the Plan, the Bankruptcy Court shall, after notice and a hearing, determine any such controversy before the Confirmation Date.

#### K. SUBSTANTIVE CONSOLIDATION

#### 1. CONSOLIDATION OF THE CHAPTER 11 CASES

The Plan contemplates and will effect the substantive consolidation of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors into a single Entity solely for the purposes of voting and distributions under the Plan and the substantive consolidation of the International Holding Company Debtors into a single Entity solely for the purposes of voting and distributions under the Plan. Accordingly, on the Effective Date: (1) no distributions will be made under the Plan on account of the Intercompany Claims, other than Allowed Intercompany Claims as set forth in the Plan Supplement; (2) the guarantees of certain Debtors of obligations of other Debtors, including those obligations arising under the Second Lien Facility, the 9.25% Senior Note Indenture and the 12% Senior Note Indenture, will be deemed eliminated so that any Claim against any Debtor and any guarantee thereof executed by any other Debtor and any joint and several liability of any Debtor with another Debtor will be deemed to be one obligation of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors and/or the International Holding Company Debtors, as appropriate; (3) each and every Claim against a Substantively Consolidated Debtor will be deemed asserted against the consolidated Estates of all of the Substantively Consolidated Debtors, will be deemed one Claim against and obligation of the deemed consolidated Substantively Consolidated Debtors and their Estates and will be treated in the same Class regardless of the Substantively Consolidated Debtor, and (4) each and every Claim against an International Holding Company Debtor will be deemed asserted against the consolidated Estates of all of the International Holding Company Debtors, will be deemed one Claim against and obligation of the deemed consolidated International Holding Company Debtors and their Estates and will be treated in the same Class regardless of the International Holding Company Debtor. Notwithstanding the substantive consolidation in the Plan, substantive consolidation will not affect the obligation of each and every Debtor under 28 U.S.C. § 1930(a)(6) until a particular case is closed, converted or dismissed.

# 2. SUBSTANTIVE CONSOLIDATION ORDER

The Plan will serve as a motion seeking entry of an order substantively consolidating the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases as set forth in the Plan. Unless an objection to substantive consolidation is made in writing by any Creditor affected by the Plan as in the Plan provided on or before the Plan Objection Deadline, an order substantively consolidating the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases, including as part of the Confirmation Order, may be entered by the Bankruptcy Court. In the event any such objections are timely filed, a hearing with respect thereto will be scheduled by the Bankruptcy Court, which hearing may, but need not, coincide with the Confirmation Hearing.

# 3. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

The Debtors reserve the right at any time up to the conclusion of the Confirmation Hearing to withdraw their request for substantive consolidation, to seek Confirmation of the Plan as if there were no substantive consolidation, and to seek Confirmation of the Plan with respect to one or more Debtors even if Confirmation with respect to other Debtors is denied.

#### L. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO CONFIRMATION AND CONSUMMATION OF THE PLAN

#### 1. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO CONFIRMATION

It shall be a condition to Confirmation hereof that all provisions, terms and conditions hereof are approved in the Confirmation Order. In addition, the following conditions shall have been satisfied or waived pursuant to the provisions of Article XII.C of the Plan:

- (a) The Plan, the Sale Order and the proposed Confirmation Order shall be in a form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtors and the Purchaser; provided that the Debtors or the Purchaser may seek an expedited hearing before the Bankruptcy Court to address any objection to any of the foregoing.
- (b) The proposed Confirmation Order shall be in a form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Committee, any modification of the Plan shall be in a form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Committee, and any material modification to the Sale Order shall be reasonably acceptable to the Committee, provided that the Debtors or the Purchaser may seek an expedited hearing before the Bankruptcy Court to address any objection by the Committee to any of the foregoing.
- (c) Solely with respect to provisions that affect the rights of the Second Lien Agent or the Second Lien Lenders: (a) the proposed Confirmation Order shall be in a form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Second Lien Agent; (b) any modifications of the Plan shall be in a form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Second Lien Agent; and (c) any material modification to the Sale Order shall be reasonably acceptable to the Second Lien Agent, provided that the Debtors, the Purchaser or the Committee may seek an expedited hearing before the Bankruptcy Court to address any objection by the Second Lien Agent to any of the foregoing.
- (d) The Plan Supplement, which shall be reasonably acceptable to the Debtors, the Purchaser and the Committee, shall have been filed, provided that if any party objects to the Plan Supplement, the Debtors, the Purchaser or the Committee may seek an expedited hearing before the Bankruptcy Court to address such objection.

#### 2. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO CONSUMMATION

It shall be a condition to Consummation of the Plan that the following conditions shall have been satisfied or waived pursuant to the provisions of Article XII.C of the Plan:

(a) The Confirmation Order confirming the Plan, as the Plan may have been modified, shall have been entered and become a Final Order in a form and substance reasonably satisfactory to the Debtors, the Purchaser, the Committee and solely with respect to provisions that affect the rights of the Second Lien Agent or the Second Lien Lenders, the Second Lien Agent, provided that if any party objects

to the Confirmation Order, the Debtors, the Purchaser or the Committee may seek an expedited hearing before the Bankruptcy Court to address such objection. The Confirmation Order shall provide that:

- (i) the Debtors, the Committee, the Purchaser and the Trusts are authorized and directed to take all actions necessary or appropriate to enter into, implement and consummate the contracts, instruments, releases, leases, indentures and other agreements or documents created in connection with or described in the Plan;
- (ii) the provisions of the Confirmation Order are nonseverable and mutually dependent; and
  - (iii) the Sale Order is incorporated as part of the Confirmation Order.
- (b) All documents and agreements necessary to implement the Plan shall have been, as applicable to each such document and agreement: (a) tendered for delivery; (b) all conditions precedent thereto shall have been satisfied; and (c) shall have been effected or executed; which documents and agreements shall include, but not be limited to the Purchase Agreement, the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement and the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement.
- (c) All actions, documents, certificates and agreements necessary to implement the Plan shall have been effected or executed and delivered to the required parties and, to the extent required, filed with the applicable governmental authorities in accordance with applicable laws.
- (d) All conditions precedent to the obligations of the Purchaser in the Purchase Agreement shall have been satisfied or waived in accordance with the terms thereof.
  - (e) The Sale Order shall have been entered and become a Final Order.
- (f) The amounts payable by Purchaser in accordance with the Purchase Agreement to the Trusts shall have been paid.
- (g) The Closing Date (as defined in the Purchase Agreement) of the Sale Transaction shall have occurred.

#### 3. WAIVER OF CONDITIONS

The Debtors, in their discretion, and with the consent of (i) the Committee (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld), (ii) the Second Lien Agent, solely with respect to provisions that affect the rights of the Second Lien Agent or the Second Lien Lenders, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, and (iii) the Purchaser may, at any time, waive any of the conditions to Confirmation of the Plan and to Consummation of the Plan set forth in Article XII of the Plan without notice, leave or order of the Bankruptcy Court or any formal action other than proceeding to confirm or consummate the Plan. The Purchaser, at any time, may waive any of the conditions to Confirmation of the Plan and to Consummation of the Plan set forth in Article XII of the Plan without notice, leave or order of the Bankruptcy Court or any formal action.

#### 4. EFFECT OF NON OCCURRENCE OF CONDITIONS TO CONSUMMATION

If the Consummation of the Plan does not occur, the Plan shall be null and void in all respects and nothing contained in the Plan or the Disclosure Statement shall: (a) constitute a waiver or release of any claims by or Claims against or Equity Interests in the Debtors; (b) prejudice in any manner the rights of the Debtors, any Holders or any other parties in interest; or (c) constitute an admission, acknowledgment, offer or undertaking by the Debtors, any Holders or any other parties in interest in any respect.

# M. SETTLEMENT, RELEASE, INJUNCTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS

#### 1. COMPROMISE AND SETTLEMENT

Notwithstanding anything contained in the Plan to the contrary, the allowance, classification and treatment of all Allowed Claims and Allowed Equity Interests and their respective distributions and treatments under the Plan take into account for and conform to the relative priority and rights of the Claims and Equity Interests in each Class in connection with any contractual, legal and equitable subordination rights relating thereto whether arising under general principles of equitable subordination, section 510(b) and (c) of the Bankruptcy Code, substantive consolidation or otherwise. As of the Effective Date, any and all such rights described in the preceding sentence are settled, compromised and released pursuant to the Plan, including for substantive consolidation purposes. The Confirmation Order shall constitute the Bankruptcy Court's finding and determination that the settlements reflected in the Plan, including all issues pertaining to claims for substantive consolidation (which are settled by the distributions in the Plan) are (1) in the best interests of the Debtors and their Estates, (2) fair, equitable and reasonable, (3) made in good faith and (4) approved by the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rule 9019. In addition, the allowance, classification and treatment of Allowed Claims take into account any causes of action, claims or counterclaims, whether under the Bankruptcy Code or otherwise under applicable law, that may exist: (1) between the Debtors and the Releasing Parties; and (2) as between the Releasing Parties (to the extent set forth in the Third Party Release). As of the Effective Date, any and all such causes of action, claims and counterclaims are settled, compromised and released pursuant to the Plan. The Confirmation Order will approve all such releases of contractual, legal and equitable subordination rights, causes of action, claims and counterclaims against each such Releasing Party that are satisfied, compromised and settled pursuant to the Plan. Nothing in Article XIII.A of the Plan will compromise or settle in any way whatsoever, any Claims or Causes of Action that the Debtors or the Trusts may have against the Non-Released Parties.

#### 2. RELEASES BY THE DEBTORS

NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING CONTAINED IN THE PLAN TO THE CONTRARY, ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE AND EFFECTIVE AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE TRANSFER OF THE RESPECTIVE TRUSTS' ASSETS TO SUCH TRUSTS (SUCH THAT THE TRUSTS WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY CLAIM RELEASED HEREUNDER), FOR THE GOOD AND VALUABLE CONSIDERATION PROVIDED BY EACH OF THE DEBTOR RELEASES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: (A) THE DISCHARGE OF DEBT AND ALL OTHER GOOD AND VALUABLE CONSIDERATION PAID PURSUANT TO THE PLAN OR OTHERWISE; AND (B) THE SERVICES OF THE DEBTORS' PRESENT AND FORMER OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS IN FACILITATING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESTRUCTURING CONTEMPLATED BY THE PLAN, AND IN VIEW OF THE INDEMNIFICATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE XIII.E OF THE PLAN OF DEBTORS' FORMER OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS AS INDEMNIFIED PARTIES, EACH OF THE DEBTORS SHALL PROVIDE A FULL DISCHARGE AND RELEASE TO THE DEBTOR RELEASEES (AND EACH SUCH DEBTOR RELEASEE SO RELEASED SHALL BE DEEMED RELEASED AND DISCHARGED BY THE DEBTORS) AND EACH SUCH DEBTOR RELEASEE'S RESPECTIVE PROPERTIES FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, CAUSES OF ACTION AND ANY OTHER DEBTS, OBLIGATIONS, RIGHTS, SUITS, DAMAGES, ACTIONS, CAUSES OF ACTION, REMEDIES, AND LIABILITIES WHATSOEVER, WHETHER KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, FORESEEN OR UNFORESEEN, EXISTING AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OR THEREAFTER ARISING, IN LAW, AT EQUITY, WHETHER FOR TORT, FRAUD, CONTRACT, VIOLATIONS OF FEDERAL OR STATE SECURITIES LAWS, OR OTHERWISE, BASED IN WHOLE OR IN PART UPON ANY ACT OR OMISSION, TRANSACTION, OR OTHER OCCURRENCE OR CIRCUMSTANCES EXISTING OR TAKING PLACE PRIOR TO OR ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE ARISING FROM OR RELATED IN ANY WAY TO THE DEBTORS, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THOSE THAT ANY OF THE DEBTORS OR THE TRUSTS WOULD HAVE BEEN LEGALLY ENTITLED TO ASSERT (WHETHER INDIVIDUALLY OR COLLECTIVELY) OR THAT ANY HOLDER OF A CLAIM OR EQUITY INTEREST OR OTHER PERSON OR ENTITY WOULD HAVE BEEN LEGALLY ENTITLED TO ASSERT FOR OR ON BEHALF OF ANY OF THE DEBTORS OR ANY OF THEIR ESTATES AND FURTHER INCLUDING THOSE IN ANY WAY RELATED TO THE CHAPTER 11 CASES OR THE PLAN: PROVIDED. HOWEVER, THAT THE FOREGOING DEBTOR RELEASE SHALL NOT OPERATE TO WAIVE OR RELEASE FROM ANY CAUSES OF ACTION EXPRESSLY SET FORTH IN AND PRESERVED BY THE PLAN OR PLAN SUPPLEMENT.

NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING CONTAINED IN THE PLAN TO THE CONTRARY, THE DEBTORS SHALL NOT HAVE RELEASED NOR BE DEEMED TO HAVE RELEASED BY OPERATION OF ARTICLE XIII.B OF THE PLAN OR OTHERWISE ANY CLAIMS, DEBTS, OBLIGATIONS, RIGHTS, SUITS, DAMAGES, ACTIONS, INTERESTS, REMEDIES, LIABILITIES OR CAUSES OF ACTION THAT THEY OR THE TRUSTS MAY HAVE NOW OR IN THE FUTURE AGAINST THE NON-RELEASED PARTIES.

ENTRY OF THE CONFIRMATION ORDER SHALL CONSTITUTE THE BANKRUPTCY COURT'S APPROVAL, PURSUANT TO SECTION 363 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE AND BANKRUPTCY RULE 9019, OF THE DEBTOR RELEASE, WHICH INCLUDES BY REFERENCE EACH OF THE RELATED PROVISIONS AND DEFINITIONS CONTAINED IN THE PLAN, AND FURTHER, SHALL CONSTITUTE THE BANKRUPTCY COURT'S FINDING THAT THE DEBTOR RELEASE IS: (A) IN EXCHANGE FOR GOOD AND VALUABLE CONSIDERATION PROVIDED BY THE DEBTOR RELEASES, REPRESENTING GOOD FAITH SETTLEMENT AND COMPROMISE OF THE CLAIMS RELEASED BY THE DEBTOR RELEASE; (B) IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE DEBTORS AND ALL HOLDERS OF CLAIMS; (C) FAIR, EQUITABLE, AND REASONABLE; (D) APPROVED AFTER DUE NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING; AND (E) A BAR TO THE DEBTORS OR TRUSTS ASSERTING ANY CLAIM RELEASED BY THE DEBTOR RELEASE AGAINST ANY OF THE DEBTOR RELEASEES OR THEIR RESPECTIVE PROPERTY.

# 3. THIRD PARTY RELEASE

NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING CONTAINED IN THE PLAN TO THE CONTRARY, ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE, EFFECTIVE AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE, THE RELEASING PARTIES SHALL PROVIDE A FULL DISCHARGE AND RELEASE (AND EACH PERSON OR ENTITY SO RELEASED SHALL BE DEEMED RELEASED BY THE RELEASING PARTIES) TO THE DEBTOR RELEASEES, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE PROPERTY FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, CAUSES OF ACTION AND ANY OTHER DEBTS, OBLIGATIONS, RIGHTS, SUITS, DAMAGES, ACTIONS, REMEDIES, AND LIABILITIES WHATSOEVER, WHETHER KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, FORESEEN OR UNFORESEEN, EXISTING AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OR THEREAFTER ARISING, IN LAW, AT EQUITY, WHETHER FOR TORT, FRAUD, CONTRACT, VIOLATIONS OF FEDERAL OR STATE SECURITIES LAWS, OR OTHERWISE, BASED IN WHOLE OR IN PART UPON ANY ACT OR OMISSION, TRANSACTION, OR OTHER OCCURRENCE OR CIRCUMSTANCES EXISTING OR TAKING PLACE PRIOR TO OR ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE ARISING FROM OR RELATED IN ANY WAY TO THE DEBTORS, INCLUDING THOSE IN ANY WAY RELATED TO THE CHAPTER 11 CASES OR THE PLAN; <u>PROVIDED</u>, <u>HOWEVER</u>, THAT THE FOREGOING THIRD PARTY RELEASE SHALL NOT OPERATE TO WAIVE OR RELEASE ANY OF THE DEBTOR RELEASES FROM ANY CAUSES OF ACTION EXPRESSLY SET FORTH IN AND PRESERVED BY THE PLAN OR PLAN SUPPLEMENT, OR RELEASE THE PURCHASER FROM ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PURCHASE AGREEMENT, THE SALE ORDER AND THE PLAN.

THE THIRD PARTY RELEASE SHALL HAVE NO EFFECT ON THE CLAIMS OF RELEASEES TREATED UNDER THE PLAN, TO THE EXTENT OF ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS AND SATISFACTION OF CLAIMS PURSUANT TO THE PLAN.

NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING CONTAINED IN THE PLAN TO THE CONTRARY, THE RELEASING PARTIES SHALL NOT HAVE RELEASED NOR DEEMED TO HAVE RELEASED BY OPERATION OF ARTICLE XIII.C OF THE PLAN OR OTHERWISE ANY CLAIMS OR CAUSES OF ACTION THAT THEY, THE DEBTORS OR THE TRUSTS MAY HAVE NOW OR IN THE FUTURE AGAINST THE NON-RELEASED PARTIES.

ENTRY OF THE CONFIRMATION ORDER SHALL CONSTITUTE THE BANKRUPTCY COURT'S APPROVAL PURSUANT TO SECTION 363 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE AND BANKRUPTCY RULE 9019 OF THE THIRD PARTY RELEASE, WHICH INCLUDES BY REFERENCE EACH OF THE RELATED PROVISIONS AND DEFINITIONS CONTAINED IN THE PLAN, <u>AND FURTHER</u>, SHALL CONSTITUTE THE BANKRUPTCY COURT'S FINDING THAT THE THIRD PARTY RELEASE IS: (A) IN EXCHANGE FOR GOOD AND VALUABLE CONSIDERATION PROVIDED BY THE THIRD PARTY RELEASEES, REPRESENTING GOOD FAITH SETTLEMENT

AND COMPROMISE OF THE CLAIMS RELEASED BY THE THIRD PARTY RELEASE; (B) IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE DEBTORS AND ALL HOLDERS OF CLAIMS; (C) FAIR, EQUITABLE, AND REASONABLE; (D) APPROVED AFTER DUE NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING; AND (E) A BAR TO ANY OF THE RELEASING PARTIES ASSERTING ANY CLAIM RELEASED BY THE THIRD PARTY RELEASE AGAINST ANY OF THE THIRD PARTY RELEASES OR THEIR PROPERTY.

No provision contained herein or in the Confirmation Order shall be construed as discharging, releasing or relieving any non-Debtor subsidiary or affiliate of Tower, in any capacity, from any liability with respect to the Pension Plan under any law, government policy or regulatory provision. PBGC and the Pension Plan shall not be enjoined or precluded from enforcing such liability against any party as a result of the Plan's provisions for satisfaction, release and discharge of claims.

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan or anything in the Plan to the contrary, including Section XIII.G of the Plan, nothing in the Plan, any amendment to the Plan, or in the Confirmation Order, shall release, enjoin, preclude, or otherwise affect in any way the prosecution of any claims, to the extent available under applicable nonbankruptcy law, against any non-Debtor affiliate or subsidiary based on control group liability arising from or relating to the Debtors' withdrawal from the United Furniture Workers Pension Fund A, provided that the Purchaser and all such non-Debtor affiliates and/or subsidiaries reserve all defenses to such claims.

#### 4. EXCULPATION

Notwithstanding anything contained in the Plan to the contrary, the Exculpated Parties shall neither have nor incur any liability to any Person or Entity for any prepetition or postpetition act taken or omitted to be taken in connection with or related to formulating, negotiating, preparing, disseminating, implementing, administering the Plan or otherwise, the Plan Supplement, the Disclosure Statement, the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement, the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement or any contract, instrument, release or other agreement or document created or entered into in connection with the Plan, or any other prepetition or postpetition act taken or omitted to be taken in connection with or in contemplation of the restructuring of the Debtors or confirming or consummating the Plan; provided, however, that the foregoing provisions of Article XIII.D of the Plan shall have no effect on the liability of any Person or Entity that results from any such act or omission that is determined in a Final Order to have constituted gross negligence or willful misconduct; provided further, that each Exculpated Party shall be entitled to rely upon the advice of counsel concerning its duties pursuant to, or in connection with, the above referenced documents; provided still further, that the foregoing Exculpation shall not apply to any acts or omissions expressly set forth in and preserved by the Plan or Plan Supplement.

Notwithstanding anything contained in the Plan to the contrary, the Exculpated Parties shall not include the Non-Released Parties, and the Plan shall not exculpate nor be deemed to have exculpated any of the Non-Released Parties for any acts they have taken, whether in contemplation of the restructuring of the Debtors, in confirming or consummating the Plan, or otherwise.

# 5. INDEMNIFICATION

Only to the extent of available funds in the Post-Consummation Indemnity Account, on and from the Effective Date, and effective as of the Effective Date, the Post-Consummation Trust shall indemnify and hold harmless, except as provided in the Plan Supplement, each of the Indemnified Parties for all costs, expenses, loss, damage or liability incurred by any such parties arising from or related in any way to any and all Claims, Causes of Action and any other debts, obligations, rights, suits, damages, actions, Causes of Action, remedies, and liabilities whatsoever, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, existing as of the Effective Date or thereafter arising, in law, at equity, whether for tort, fraud, contract, violations of federal or state securities laws, or otherwise, based in whole or in part upon any act or omission, transaction, or other occurrence or circumstances existing or taking place prior to or on the Effective Date arising from or related in any way to the Debtors, including, without limitation, those arising from or related in any way to: (a) any acquisition by any such party of any indebtedness of the Debtors; (b) any action or omission of any such party with respect to the acquisition, holding, voting or disposition of any such investment); (c) any action or omission of any such party in such party's capacity as an officer, director, employee or agent of, or advisor to any Debtor; (d) any disclosure made or not made by any Person to any current or former Holder of any such indebtedness of the Debtors; (e) any consideration paid to any

such party by any of the Debtors in respect of any investment by any such party in any indebtedness of the Debtors or in respect of any services provided by any such party to any Debtor; and (f) any action taken or not taken in connection with the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement, the Chapter 11 Cases, or the Plan. In the event that any such party becomes involved in any action, proceeding or investigation brought by or against any Person, as a result of matters to which the foregoing indemnity may relate, the Post-Consummation Trust will promptly reimburse any such party for its reasonable legal and other expenses (including the cost of any investigation and preparation) incurred in connection therewith as such expenses are incurred and after a request for indemnification is made in writing, with reasonable documentation in support thereof; <u>provided, however</u>, that, notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, the Plan shall not indemnify nor be deemed to have indemnified any of the Non-Released Parties, whether for any matter to which Article XIII.E of the Plan pertains or otherwise, and <u>provided further</u> that the obligations of the Post-Consummation Trust with respect to Article XII.E of the Plan shall be limited to the funds in the Post-Consummation Indemnity Account.

# 6. PRESERVATION OF RIGHTS OF ACTION

#### (a) Maintenance of Causes of Action

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan or Confirmation Order, after the Effective Date the Post-Consummation Trust shall retain all rights to commence and pursue, as appropriate, any and all Other Actions, whether arising before or after the Petition Date, in any court or other tribunal including, without limitation, in an adversary proceeding filed in one or more of the Chapter 11 Cases and all actions set forth in the Plan Supplement.

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, Purchase Agreement or Confirmation Order, in accordance with section 1123(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code, any claims, rights, and Causes of Action, and which such claims, rights and Causes of Action are Excluded Assets and are not Residual Chapter 5 Claims, that the Debtors may hold against any Entity shall vest upon the Effective Date in the Post-Consummation Trust. The Post-Consummation Trust, through its authorized agents and representatives, shall retain and may exclusively enforce any and all Other Actions. After the Effective Date, the Post-Consummation Trust shall have the exclusive right, authority, and discretion to institute, prosecute, abandon, settle, or compromise any and all Other Actions, without the consent or approval of any third party and without any further order of the Bankruptcy Court.

#### (b) Preservation of All Causes of Action Not Expressly Sold, Settled or Released

Unless a Claim or Cause of Action against a Holder or other Person or Entity is acquired by Purchaser (and is an Excluded Asset) pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, or is a Residual Chapter 5 Claim, or is expressly waived, relinquished, released, compromised or settled in the Plan or any Final Order (including the Sale Order and the Confirmation Order), subject to the terms of the Purchase Agreement, the Debtors expressly reserve such Claim or Cause of Action for later adjudication by the Debtors or the Post-Consummation Trust (including, without limitation, claims and Causes of Action not specifically identified or of which the Debtors may presently be unaware or which may arise or exist by reason of additional facts or circumstances unknown to the Debtors at this time or facts or circumstances which may change or be different from those the Debtors now believe to exist) and, therefore, no preclusion doctrine, including, without limitation, the doctrines of res judicata, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim preclusion, waiver, estoppel (judicial, equitable or otherwise) or laches shall apply to such claims or Causes of Action upon or after the Confirmation or Consummation of the Plan based on the Disclosure Statement, the Plan or the Confirmation Order, except where such claims or Causes of Action have been released in the Plan (including, without limitation, and for the avoidance of doubt, the Debtor Release contained in Article XIII.B of the Plan) or any other Final Order (including the Confirmation Order). In addition, the Debtors and Post-Consummation Trust expressly reserve the right to pursue or adopt any claims alleged in any lawsuit in which the Debtors are a defendant or an interested party, against any Person or Entity, including, without limitation, the plaintiffs or co defendants in such lawsuits, unless such claims are acquired by Purchaser pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, or are a Residual Chapter 5 Claim.

#### 7. INJUNCTION

(a) FROM AND AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, ALL PERSONS AND ENTITIES ARE PERMANENTLY ENJOINED FROM COMMENCING OR CONTINUING IN ANY MANNER AGAINST THE DEBTORS, THE PURCHASER, THE COMMITTEE, THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, INDENTURE TRUSTEES OR THE TRUSTS, THEIR SUCCESSORS

AND ASSIGNS, AND EACH OF THEIR RESPECTIVE CURRENT AND FORMER MEMBERS, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, MANAGED FUNDS INVESTMENT ADVISORS, AGENTS, FINANCIAL ADVISORS, ATTORNEYS, EMPLOYEES, PARTNERS, AFFILIATES AND REPRESENTATIVES (EACH OF THE FOREGOING IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY AS SUCH), AND THEIR ASSETS AND PROPERTIES, AS THE CASE MAY BE, ANY SUIT, ACTION OR OTHER PROCEEDING, ON ACCOUNT OF OR RESPECTING ANY CLAIM, DEMAND, LIABILITY, OBLIGATION, DEBT, RIGHT, CAUSE OF ACTION, INTEREST OR REMEDY RELEASED OR TO BE RELEASED PURSUANT TO THE PLAN OR THE CONFIRMATION ORDER.

- (b) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE EXPRESSLY PROVIDED FOR IN THE PLAN, THE PURCHASE AGREEMENT OR IN OBLIGATIONS ISSUED PURSUANT TO THE PLAN, FROM AND AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, ALL PERSONS AND ENTITIES SHALL BE PRECLUDED FROM ASSERTING AGAINST THE PURCHASER, THE DEBTORS, THE DEBTORS IN POSSESSION, THE DEBTORS' ESTATES, THE TRUSTS, THE COMMITTEE, THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, INDENTURE TRUSTEES, ANY OF THEIR SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, AND EACH OF THEIR RESPECTIVE CURRENT AND FORMER MEMBERS, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, MANAGED FUNDS, INVESTMENT ADVISORS, AGENTS, FINANCIAL ADVISORS, ATTORNEYS, EMPLOYEES, PARTNERS, AFFILIATES AND REPRESENTATIVES (EACH OF THE FOREGOING IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY AS SUCH), AND THEIR ASSETS AND PROPERTIES, ANY OTHER CLAIMS OR EQUITY INTERESTS BASED UPON ANY DOCUMENTS, INSTRUMENTS, OR ANY ACT OR OMISSION, TRANSACTION OR OTHER ACTIVITY OF ANY KIND OR NATURE THAT OCCURRED PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE.
- (c) THE RIGHTS AFFORDED IN THE PLAN AND THE TREATMENT OF ALL CLAIMS AND EQUITY INTERESTS IN THE PLAN SHALL BE IN EXCHANGE FOR AND IN COMPLETE SATISFACTION OF CLAIMS AND EQUITY INTERESTS OF ANY NATURE WHATSOEVER, INCLUDING ANY INTEREST ACCRUED ON CLAIMS FROM AND AFTER THE PETITION DATE, AGAINST THE DEBTORS OR ANY OF THEIR ASSETS OR PROPERTIES. ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE, ALL SUCH CLAIMS AGAINST, AND EQUITY INTERESTS IN, THE DEBTORS SHALL BE SATISFIED AND RELEASED IN FULL.
- (d) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE EXPRESSLY PROVIDED FOR IN THE PLAN, THE PURCHASE AGREEMENT OR IN OBLIGATIONS ISSUED PURSUANT TO THE PLAN, ALL PARTIES AND ENTITIES ARE PERMANENTLY ENJOINED, ON AND AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE, ON ACCOUNT OF ANY CLAIM OR EQUITY INTEREST SATISFIED AND RELEASED HEREBY, FROM:
  - (i) COMMENCING OR CONTINUING IN ANY MANNER ANY ACTION OR OTHER PROCEEDING OF ANY KIND AGAINST ANY DEBTOR, THE PURCHASER, THE TRUSTS, THE COMMITTEE, THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, THE INDENTURE TRUSTEES, AND EACH OF THEIR RESPECTIVE CURRENT AND FORMER MEMBERS, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, MANAGED FUNDS, INVESTMENT ADVISORS, AGENTS, FINANCIAL ADVISORS, ATTORNEYS, EMPLOYEES, PARTNERS, AFFILIATES AND REPRESENTATIVES (EACH OF THE FOREGOING IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY AS SUCH), OR ANY OF THEIR SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, OR ANY OF THEIR ASSETS AND PROPERTIES;
  - (ii) ENFORCING, ATTACHING, COLLECTING OR RECOVERING BY ANY MANNER OR MEANS ANY JUDGMENT, AWARD, DECREE OR ORDER AGAINST ANY DEBTOR, THE PURCHASER, THE TRUSTS, THE COMMITTEE, THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, INDENTURE TRUSTEES AND ANY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, AND EACH OF THEIR RESPECTIVE CURRENT AND FORMER MEMBERS, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, MANAGED FUNDS, INVESTMENT ADVISORS, AGENTS, FINANCIAL ADVISORS, ATTORNEYS, EMPLOYEES, PARTNERS, AFFILIATES AND REPRESENTATIVES (EACH OF THE

FOREGOING IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY AS SUCH), AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ASSETS AND PROPERTIES:

- (iii) CREATING, PERFECTING, OR ENFORCING ANY ENCUMBRANCE OF ANY KIND AGAINST ANY DEBTOR, THE PURCHASER, THE TRUSTS, THE INDENTURE TRUSTEES, AND EACH OF THEIR RESPECTIVE CURRENT AND FORMER MEMBERS, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, MANAGED FUNDS, INVESTMENT ADVISORS, AGENTS, FINANCIAL ADVISORS, ATTORNEYS, EMPLOYEES, PARTNERS, AFFILIATES AND REPRESENTATIVES (EACH OF THE FOREGOING IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY AS SUCH), OR THE PROPERTY OR ESTATE OF ANY OF THE FOREGOING; OR
- (iv) ASSERTING ANY RIGHT OF SETOFF, SUBROGATION OR RECOUPMENT OF ANY KIND AGAINST ANY OBLIGATION DUE FROM ANY DEBTOR, THE PURCHASER, THE TRUSTS OR AGAINST THE PROPERTY OR ESTATE OF ANY DEBTOR, THE PURCHASER OR THE TRUSTS, AND EACH OF THEIR RESPECTIVE CURRENT AND FORMER MEMBERS, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, MANAGED FUNDS, INVESTMENT ADVISORS, AGENTS, FINANCIAL ADVISORS, ATTORNEYS, EMPLOYEES, PARTNERS, AFFILIATES AND REPRESENTATIVES (EACH OF THE FOREGOING IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY AS SUCH), EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT A RIGHT TO SETOFF, RECOUPMENT OR SUBROGATION IS ASSERTED WITH RESPECT TO A TIMELY FILED PROOF OF CLAIM.
- (e) BY ACCEPTING DISTRIBUTIONS PURSUANT TO THE PLAN, EACH HOLDER OF AN ALLOWED CLAIM RECEIVING DISTRIBUTIONS PURSUANT TO THE PLAN WILL BE DEEMED TO HAVE SPECIFICALLY CONSENTED TO THE INJUNCTIONS SET FORTH IN ARTICLE XIII.G OF THE PLAN.
- (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan or anything in the Plan to the contrary, including the foregoing provisions of Section XIII.G of the Plan, nothing in the Plan, any amendment to the Plan, or in the Confirmation Order, shall enjoin any claims, to the extent available under applicable nonbankruptcy law, of the United Furniture Workers Pension Fund A against any non-Debtor affiliates or subsidiaries any claims based on control group liability arising from or related to the Debtors' withdrawal from the United Furniture Workers Pension Fund A, provided that the Purchaser and all such non-Debtor affiliates and/or subsidiaries reserve all defenses to such claims.

#### N. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION

Notwithstanding the entry of the Confirmation Order and the occurrence of the Effective Date, the Bankruptcy Court shall, after the Effective Date, retain such jurisdiction over the Chapter 11 Cases and all Persons and Entities with respect to all matters related to the Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors and the Plan as legally permissible, including, but not limited to, jurisdiction to:

- 1. allow, disallow, determine, liquidate, classify, estimate or establish the priority or secured or unsecured status of any Claim or Equity Interest, including the resolution of any request for payment of any Administrative Claim and the resolution of any and all objections to the allowance or priority of Claims or Equity Interests;
- 2. grant or deny any applications for allowance of compensation or reimbursement of expenses authorized pursuant to the Bankruptcy Code or the Plan, for periods ending on or before the Effective Date;
- 3. resolve any matters related to the assumption, assignment or rejection of any Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease to which a Debtor is party or with respect to which a Debtor may be liable and to hear, determine and, if necessary, liquidate, any Claims arising therefrom, including those matters related to any amendment to the Plan after the Effective Date pursuant to Article XV.D of the Plan adding Executory Contracts or Unexpired Leases to the list of Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases to be assumed;

- 4. ensure that distributions to Holders of Allowed Claims are accomplished pursuant to the provisions of the Plan;
- 5. decide or resolve any motions, adversary proceedings, contested or litigated matters and any other matters and grant or deny any applications involving a Debtor that may be pending on the Effective Date or instituted by the Post-Consummation Trust after the Effective Date, *provided*, *however*, that the Post-Consummation Trust shall reserve the right to commence actions in all appropriate jurisdictions;
- 6. enter such orders as may be necessary or appropriate to implement or consummate the provisions of the Plan, the Sale Transaction, the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement and all other contracts, instruments, releases, indentures and other agreements or documents adopted in connection with the Plan, Plan Supplement, Post-Consummation Trust Agreement or the Disclosure Statement;
- 7. resolve any cases, controversies, suits or disputes that may arise in connection with the Consummation, interpretation or enforcement of the Sale Order, the Plan, or any Person's or Entity's obligations incurred in connection with the Plan:
- 8. issue injunctions, enforce them, enter and implement other orders or take such other actions as may be necessary or appropriate to restrain interference by any Person or Entity with Consummation or enforcement of the Plan, except as otherwise provided in the Plan;
- 9. enforce Article XIII.A, Article XIII.B, Article XIII.C, Article XIII.D, and Article XIII.E of the Plan;
  - 10. enforce the injunction set forth in Article XIII.G of the Plan;
- 11. resolve any cases, controversies, suits or disputes with respect to the releases, injunction and other provisions contained in Article XIII of the Plan, and enter such orders as may be necessary or appropriate to implement or enforce all such releases, injunctions and other provisions;
- 12. enter and implement such orders as necessary or appropriate if the Confirmation Order is modified, stayed, reversed, revoked or vacated;
- 13. resolve any other matters that may arise in connection with or relate to the Plan, the Disclosure Statement, the Sale Order, the Confirmation Order or any contract, instrument, release, indenture or other agreement or document adopted in connection with the Plan or the Disclosure Statement; and
  - 14. enter an order and/or Final Decree concluding the Chapter 11 Cases.

#### O. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

# 1. EFFECTUATING DOCUMENTS, FURTHER TRANSACTIONS AND CORPORATE ACTION

The Debtors, the Purchaser, the Committee and the Trusts are authorized to execute, deliver, file or record such contracts, instruments, releases and other agreements or documents and take such actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate, implement and further evidence the terms and conditions hereof pursuant to the Plan.

Prior to, on or after the Effective Date (as appropriate), all matters provided for under the Plan that would otherwise require approval of the shareholders or directors of the Debtors shall be deemed to have been so approved and shall be in effect prior to, on or after the Effective Date (as appropriate) pursuant to the applicable state law without any requirement of further action by the shareholders, directors, managers or partners of the Debtors.

# 2. DISSOLUTION OF COMMITTEE

Effective no later than thirty (30) days after the Effective Date if no appeal of the Confirmation Order is then pending, and so long as the Trusts have been established, the Committee shall dissolve with respect to the Debtors and its respective members shall be released and discharged from all further authority, duties, responsibilities and obligations relating to the Chapter 11 Cases; *provided*, *however*, that the Committee and their respective Retained Professionals shall be retained with respect to (i) applications filed pursuant to sections 330 and

331 of the Bankruptcy Code, (ii) motions seeking the enforcement of the provisions of the Plan and the transactions contemplated under the Plan or the Confirmation Order and (iii) pending appeals.

#### 3. PAYMENT OF STATUTORY FEES

All fees payable pursuant to section 1930 of title 28 of the United States Code after the Effective Date, as determined by the Bankruptcy Court at a hearing pursuant to section 1128 of the Bankruptcy Code, shall be paid prior to the closing of the Chapter 11 Cases on the earlier of when due or the Effective Date, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

#### 4. MODIFICATION OF PLAN

Effective as of the date hereof, and subject to the limitations contained in the Plan: (a) the Debtors reserve the right, in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code and the Bankruptcy Rules, to amend or modify the Plan prior to the entry of the Confirmation Order; and (b) after the entry of the Confirmation Order, the Debtors or the Post-Consummation Trust, as the case may be, may, upon order of the Bankruptcy Court, amend or modify the Plan, in accordance with section 1127(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, or remedy any defect or omission or reconcile any inconsistency in the Plan in such manner as may be necessary to carry out the purpose and intent of the Plan. Any such modification shall be made subject to the reasonable consent of the Purchaser, the Committee, and the Second Lien Agent (but only to the extent such modification materially affects the rights of the Second Lien Agent or the Second Lien Lenders), provided that if any party objects to such modification, the Debtors, the Purchaser or the Committee or the Second Lien Agent may seek an expedited hearing before the Bankruptcy Court to address such objection.

#### 5. REVOCATION OF PLAN

The Debtors reserve the right to revoke or withdraw the Plan prior to the Confirmation Date and to file subsequent plans of reorganization. If the Debtors revoke or withdraw the Plan, or if Confirmation or Consummation does not occur, then: (a) the Plan shall be null and void in all respects; (b) any settlement or compromise embodied in the Plan, assumption or rejection of Executory Contracts or leases effected by the Plan, and any document or agreement executed pursuant to the Plan shall be deemed null and void; and (c) nothing contained in the Plan shall: (i) constitute a waiver or release of any claims by or against, or any Equity Interests in, such Debtor or any other Person; (ii) prejudice in any manner the rights of the Debtors or any other Person; or (iii) constitute an admission of any sort by the Debtors or any other Person.

#### 6. SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS

The rights, benefits and obligations of any Person or Entity named or referred to in the Plan shall be binding on, and shall inure to the benefit of, any heir, executor, administrator, successor or assign of such Person or Entity.

#### 7. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

Except as expressly set forth in the Plan, the Plan shall have no force or effect unless and until the Bankruptcy Court enters the Confirmation Order. Neither the filing of the Plan, any statement or provision contained in the Plan, nor the taking of any action by a Debtor or any Person with respect to the Plan shall be or shall be deemed to be an admission or waiver of any rights of: (a) any Debtor with respect to the Holders of Claims or Equity Interests or other parties in interest; or (b) any Holder of a Claim or other party in interest prior to the Effective Date.

#### 8. SECTION 1146 EXEMPTION

Pursuant to section 1146 of the Bankruptcy Code, any transfers of property pursuant to the Plan, including, but not limited to the Sale Transaction, shall not be subject to any document recording tax, stamp tax, conveyance fee, intangibles or similar tax, mortgage tax, stamp act, real estate transfer tax, mortgage recording tax or other similar tax or governmental assessment in the United States, and the Confirmation Order shall direct the appropriate state or local governmental officials or agents to forego the collection of any such tax or governmental assessment and to accept for filing and recordation any of the foregoing instruments or other documents without the payment of any such tax or governmental assessment.

# 9. FURTHER ASSURANCES

The Debtors, Trusts, all Holders of Claims receiving distributions under the Plan and all other parties in interest shall, from time to time, prepare, execute and deliver any agreements or documents and take any other actions as may be necessary or advisable to effectuate the provisions and intent of the Plan or the Confirmation Order.

#### 10. SEVERABILITY

If, prior to Confirmation, any term or provision of the Plan is held by the Bankruptcy Court to be invalid, void or unenforceable, the Bankruptcy Court will have the power to alter and interpret such term of provision to make it valid or enforceable to the maximum extent practicable, consistent with the original purpose of the term or provision held to be invalid, void or unenforceable, and such term or provision then will be applicable as altered or interpreted; provided, however, that any such alteration or interpretation must be in form and substance reasonably acceptable to the Debtors, the Purchaser, and the Committee, provided that the Debtors, the Purchaser or the Committee may seek an expedited hearing before the Bankruptcy Court to address any objection to any of the foregoing. Notwithstanding any such holding, alteration or interpretation, the remainder of the terms and provisions of the Plan will remain in full force and effect. The Confirmation Order will constitute a judicial determination and will provide that each term and provision of the Plan, as it may have been altered or interpreted in accordance with the foregoing, is valid and enforceable pursuant to its terms.

# V. THE SOLICITATION; VOTING PROCEDURES

The following briefly summarizes procedures to accept and confirm the Plan. Holders of Claims are encouraged to review the relevant provisions of the Bankruptcy Code and/or to consult their own attorneys. The Confirmation Hearing Notice sets forth additional information regarding voting procedures.

#### A. THE SOLICITATION PACKAGE

The following materials constitute the Solicitation Package:

- the Confirmation Hearing Notice;
- the appropriate Ballot(s) and/or Master Ballot(s) and applicable Voting Instructions;
- a pre-addressed, postage pre-paid return envelope;
- the Disclosure Statement with all exhibits, including the Plan, and any other supplements or amendments to these documents which may be filed with the Bankruptcy Court;
- a letter to the Holders in each of the Voting Classes urging them to vote to accept the Plan (the forms of which are attached hereto as <u>Exhibit D</u>);
- the Disclosure Statement Order, which, among other things (a) approves this Disclosure Statement as containing "adequate information" in accordance with section 1125 of the Bankruptcy Code, (b) fixes a voting record date, (c) approves solicitation and voting procedures with respect to the Plan, (d) approves the form of the Solicitation Package and the notices to be distributed with respect thereto, and (e) schedules certain dates in connection therewith.

The Core Group<sup>18</sup>, all parties in interest on the 2002 List as of the Voting Record Date and all parties entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan shall be served paper copies or a CD-ROM containing the Disclosure

<sup>&</sup>quot;Core Group" means (i) United States Bankruptcy Judge Allan L. Gropper's Chambers, (ii) Office of the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York, (iii) counsel to the Committee, (iv) counsel for the (Continued...)

Statement Order, the Disclosure Statement and all exhibits to the Disclosure Statement, including the Plan. Any party who is served a CD-ROM but desires a paper copy of these documents may request a copy from the Debtors' Voting Agent by writing to Tower Automotive, c/o Bankruptcy Services LLC, 757 Third Avenue, Third Floor, New York, New York 10017, Attention: Ballot Processing Center or calling 1-866-405-5263. The Solicitation Package (except the Ballots) can also be obtained by any party by accessing the Voting Agent's website at <a href="https://www.bsillc.com">www.bsillc.com</a>. Moreover, all parties entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan shall receive a Solicitation Package containing paper copies of the Confirmation Hearing Notice, an appropriate Ballot and/or Master Ballot, and the Solicitation Procedures (Exhibit 2 of the Disclosure Statement Order).

The Plan Supplement will be filed by the Debtors on or before July 2, 2007, the Plan Supplement Filing Date. When filed, the Plan Supplement shall be made available on the Voting Agent's website at <a href="https://www.bsillc.com">www.bsillc.com</a>. The Debtors will not serve paper or CD-ROM copies of the Plan Supplement. However, parties may request a copy of the Plan Supplement from the Debtors' Voting Agent.

#### **B.** VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

Only the Holders of Allowed Classes 4, 5, 6 and 7 Claims as of **June 1, 2007**, the Voting Record Date, are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan, and they may do so by completing the Ballot and returning it in the envelope provided to the Voting Agent by the Voting Deadline. Voting Instructions are attached to each Ballot.

The Debtors, with the approval of the Bankruptcy Court, have engaged BSI, 757 Third Avenue, Third Floor, New York, NY 10017, as the claims and noticing agent and as the Voting Agent to assist in the solicitation process. The Voting Agent will, among other things, answer questions, provide additional copies of all Solicitation Package materials, and generally oversee the solicitation process. The Voting Agent will also process and tabulate Ballots for each Class entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan and will file the Voting Report as soon as practicable before the Confirmation Hearing.

The deadline to vote on the Plan is 4:00 p.m., E.T., **July 6, 2007**.

#### **BALLOTS**

Ballots and Master Ballots must be actually received by the Voting Agent by the Voting Deadline by using the envelope provided, or by First Class Mail, Overnight Courier or Personal Delivery to:

> Tower Automotive Balloting Center c/o Bankruptcy Services LLC 757 Third Avenue, 3rd Floor New York, NY 10017

If you have any questions on the procedures for voting on the Plan, please call the Voting Agent at the following telephone number:

1-866-405-5263

ANY BALLOT THAT IS PROPERLY EXECUTED BY THE HOLDER OF A CLAIM, BUT WHICH DOES NOT CLEARLY INDICATE AN ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF THE PLAN OR WHICH INDICATES BOTH AN ACCEPTANCE AND A REJECTION OF THE PLAN, SHALL NOT BE COUNTED.

Debtors' prepetition secured lenders, and (v) counsel to the administrative agent for the Debtors' postpetition secured lenders.

EACH HOLDER OF A CLAIM MUST VOTE ALL OF THEIR CLAIMS WITHIN A PARTICULAR PLAN CLASS EITHER TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN AND MAY NOT SPLIT THEIR VOTES. BY SIGNING AND RETURNING A BALLOT, EACH HOLDER OF A CLAIM IN CLASSES 4, 5, 6 AND 7 WILL CERTIFY TO THE BANKRUPTCY COURT AND THE DEBTORS THAT NO OTHER BALLOTS WITH RESPECT TO SUCH CLAIM HAVE BEEN CAST OR, IF ANY OTHER BALLOTS HAVE BEEN CAST WITH RESPECT TO SUCH CLASS OF CLAIMS, SUCH OTHER BALLOTS INDICATED THE SAME VOTE TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN.

# ALL BALLOTS ARE ACCOMPANIED BY RETURN ENVELOPES. IT IS IMPORTANT TO FOLLOW THE SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED ON EACH BALLOT.

# <u>Special Note For Holders of Notes in Class 4 or Class 6</u>:

If you received a return envelope addressed to your Nominee, please allow sufficient time for your Nominee to process your vote on a Mater Ballot and return the Master Ballot to the Voting Agent before the Voting Deadline.

#### For all Holders:

By signing and returning a Ballot, each Holder of a Claim in Classes 4, 5, 6 and 7 will also be certifying to the Bankruptcy Court and the Debtors that, among other things,

- the Holder has received and reviewed a copy of the Disclosure Statement and Solicitation Package and acknowledges that the solicitation is being made pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth therein;
- the Holder has cast the same vote with respect to all Claims in a single Class;
- no other Ballots with respect to the amount of the Claims have been cast or, if any other Ballots have been cast with respect to such Claims, then any such earlier Ballots are thereby revoked.

# C. VOTING TABULATION

To ensure that a vote is counted, the Holder of a Claim or Interest should: (a) complete a Ballot; (b) indicate the Holder's decision either to accept or reject the Plan in the boxes provided in the Ballot; and (c) sign and timely return the Ballot to the address set forth on the enclosed prepaid envelope by the Voting Deadline. A Holder with Claims in more than one Class may receive more than one Ballot and each such Ballot will be coded for the particular Class. The Ballot may not be used for any purpose other than to vote to accept or reject the Plan. Accordingly, at the time the Ballot is transmitted, Creditors should not surrender certificates, instruments, or other documents representing or evidencing their Claims.

The Ballot does not constitute, and shall not be deemed to be, a Proof of Claim or an assertion or admission of a Claim. Only the following Holders of Claims in Voting Classes shall be entitled to vote with regard to such Claims:

- 1. the Holders of Claims for which proofs of claim have been timely filed, as reflected on the official claims register, as of the close of business on the Voting Record Date, with the exception of those Claims subject to a pending objection filed before the Voting Deadline, unless such claims are allowed for voting purposes pursuant to a Resolution Event as outlined in the Solicitation Procedures; <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, to the extent that the Debtors have reached a settlement on a Claim for which a proof of claim has been timely filed, the terms of such settlement shall govern for purposes of determining the Holder of the Claim and the amount of the Claim;
- 2. the Holders of scheduled Claims that are listed in the Debtors' Schedules, with the exception of those scheduled Claims that are listed as contingent, unliquidated or disputed Claims (excluding such scheduled Claims that have been superseded by a timely-filed proof of claim); and
- 3. the Holders of Claims arising pursuant to an agreement or settlement with the Debtors executed prior to the close of business on the Voting Record Date, as reflected in a court pleading, stipulation, term sheet, agreement, or other document filed with the Bankruptcy Court, in an Order entered by the Bankruptcy Court, or in a

document executed by the Debtors pursuant to authority granted by the Bankruptcy Court regardless of whether a proof of claim has been filed.

The assignee of a transferred and assigned claim (whether a timely-filed or scheduled claim) shall be permitted to vote such Claim only if the appropriate Transfer/Assignment Form has been noted on the Bankruptcy Court's docket as of the close of business on the Voting Record Date.

In tabulating votes, the following hierarchy shall be used to determine the Claim amount associated with each Creditor's vote:

- 1. The Claim amount settled and/or agreed upon by the Debtors prior to the Voting Record Date, as reflected in a court pleading, stipulation, term sheet, agreement or other document filed with the Bankruptcy Court, in an Order entered by the Bankruptcy Court, or in a document executed by the Debtors pursuant to authority granted by the Bankruptcy Court;
- 2. The Claim amount Allowed (temporarily or otherwise) pursuant to a Resolution Event as outlined in the Solicitation Procedures;
- 3. The Claim amount contained on a Proof of Claim that has been timely filed by the relevant Claims Objection Bar Date (or deemed timely filed by the Bankruptcy Court under applicable law), *provided*, *however*, that Ballots cast by Creditors whose Claims are not listed on the Debtors' Schedules, but who timely file proofs of claim in unliquidated or unknown amounts that are not the subject of an objection filed before the Voting Deadline, will count for satisfying the numerosity requirement of section 1126(c) of the Bankruptcy Code, and will count as Ballots for Claims in the amount of \$1.00 solely for the purposes of satisfying the dollar amount provisions of section 1126(c) of the Bankruptcy Code; *provided further*, *however*, that to the extent the Claim amount contained in the Proof of Claim is different from the Claim amount set forth in a court pleading, stipulation, term sheet, agreement, or other document filed with the Bankruptcy Court as referenced in the Solicitation Procedures, the Claim amount in the court pleading, stipulation, term sheet, agreement, or other document filed with the Bankruptcy Court shall supersede the Claim amount set forth on the respective Proof of Claim;
- 4. The Claim amount listed in the Debtors' Schedules, provided that such Claim is not scheduled as contingent, disputed or unliquidated and has not been paid; and
  - 5. In the absence of any of the foregoing, zero.

The Claim amount established pursuant to the hierarchy described above shall control for voting purposes only, and shall not constitute the Allowed amount of any Claim. The General Tabulation Procedures are set forth in the Solicitation Procedures.

Ballots received after the Voting Deadline in connection with the Debtors' request for Confirmation of the Plan may not be counted. The method of delivery of the Ballots to be sent to the Voting Agent is at the election and risk of each Holder of a Claim. Except as otherwise provided in the Solicitation Procedures, a Ballot will be deemed delivered only when the Voting Agent actually receives the original executed Ballot. Delivery of a Ballot to the Voting Agent by facsimile, e mail or any other electronic means will not be accepted. No Ballot should be sent to any of the Debtors, the Debtors' agents (other than the Voting Agent), any Indenture Trustee (unless specifically instructed to do so), or the Debtors' financial or legal advisors. The Debtors expressly reserve the right to amend from time to time the terms of the Plan (subject to compliance with the requirements of section 1127 of the Bankruptcy Code and the terms of the Plan regarding modifications). If the Debtors make material changes to the terms of the Plan or if the Debtors waive a material condition to Plan confirmation, the Debtors will disseminate additional solicitation materials and will extend the solicitation, in each case to the extent directed by the Court.

If multiple Ballots are received from the same Creditor with respect to the same Claim prior to the Voting Deadline, the last Ballot timely received will be deemed to reflect that voter's intent and will supersede and revoke any prior Ballot. Creditors must vote all of their Claims or Equity Interests within a particular Plan class either to accept or reject the Plan and may not split their vote. Accordingly, a Ballot that partially rejects and partially accepts the Plan will not be counted. Further, to the extent there are multiple claims within the same class, the Debtors may, in their discretion, aggregate the claims of any particular Holder within a class for the purpose of counting votes.

A Person signing a Ballot in its capacity as a trustee, executor, administrator, guardian, attorney in fact, officer of corporations, or otherwise acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity should indicate such capacity when signing and, if required or requested by the applicable Nominee or its agent, the Voting Agent, the Debtors or the Bankruptcy Court, must submit proper evidence to so act on behalf of such claimant or Beneficial Holder.

In the event a designation of lack of good faith is requested by a party-in-interest under section 1126(e) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Court will determine whether any vote to accept and/or reject the Plan cast with respect to that Claim will be counted for purposes of determining whether the Plan has been accepted and/or rejected.

Neither the Debtors nor any other Person or Entity will be under any duty to provide notification of defects or irregularities with respect to delivered Ballots other than as provided in the Voting Report, nor will any of them incur any liability for failure to provide such notification.

The Debtors will file with the Bankruptcy Court, as soon as practicable prior to the Confirmation Hearing, the Voting Report. The Voting Report shall, among other things, delineate every Ballot that does not conform to the Voting Instructions or that contains any form of irregularity (each an "Irregular Ballot") including, but not limited to, those Ballots that are late or (in whole or in material part) illegible, unidentifiable, lacking signatures or lacking necessary information, received via facsimile or electronic mail or damaged. The Voting Report also shall indicate the Debtors' intentions with regard to such Irregular Ballots. The Voting Report will be shared with the Creditors Committee prior to filing with the Bankruptcy Court.

#### VI. CONFIRMATION PROCEDURES

#### THE CONFIRMATION HEARING A.

Section 1128(a) of the Bankruptcy Code requires the Bankruptcy Court, after notice, to hold the Confirmation Hearing. Section 1128(b) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that any party in interest may object to confirmation of the Plan.

The Bankruptcy Court has scheduled the Confirmation Hearing for July 11, 2007, at 11:00 a.m., Eastern time, before the Honorable Allan L. Gropper, United States Bankruptcy Judge, in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York, Courtroom 617, One Bowling Green, New York, New York 10004. The Confirmation Hearing may be adjourned from time to time by the Bankruptcy Court without further notice except for an announcement of the adjourned date made at the Confirmation Hearing or any adjournment thereof.

Objections to confirmation of the Plan must be Filed with the Bankruptcy Court and served on or before 4:00 p.m., Eastern time, July 6, 2007, in accordance with the Disclosure Statement Order that accompanies this Disclosure Statement. THE BANKRUPTCY COURT WILL NOT CONSIDER OBJECTIONS TO CONFIRMATION UNLESS THEY ARE TIMELY SERVED AND FILED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE **DISCLOSURE STATEMENT ORDER.** Objections to confirmation of the Plan must be served on:

> KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP Richard M. Cieri (RC-6062) Anup Sathy P.C. (AS-4915) Ross M. Kwasteniet (RK-1653) Lisa G. Laukitis (LG-9248) Citigroup Center AON Center 153 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street 200 East Randolph Drive

New York, NY 10022-4675 Chicago, IL 60601

Telephone: Telephone: (312) 861-2000 (212) 446-4800 Facsimile: Facsimile: (212) 446-4900 (312) 861-2100

Attorneys for the Debtors and Debtors in Possession

AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD

LLP

Daniel H. Golden (DG-5624) Ira S. Dizengoff (ID-9980) 590 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10022

LOWENSTEIN SANDLER P.C.

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65 Livingston Avenue Roseland, NJ 07068-1791

Telephone: (973) 597-2500

# 05-10578-alg Doc 2742 Filed 06/06/07 Entered 06/06/07 18:57:27 Main Document Pg 73 of 101

Telephone: (212) 872-1000 Facsimile: (973) 597-2400

Facsimile: (212) 872-1002 Attorneys for TA Acquisition Company, LLC

Attorneys for the Committee

CLERK OF THE BANKRUPTCY COURT TOWER AUTOMOTIVE, INC.

Judge Allan L. Gropper's ChambersLegal DepartmentRoom 51727275 Haggerty RoadOne Bowling GreenNovi, MI 48377

New York, NY 10004

MILBANK, TWEED, HADLEY & MCCLOY MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

LLP Richard Toder
Luc Despins 101 Park Avenue

Matthew Barr New York, NY 10178-0060

1 Chase Manhattan Plaza

New York, NY 10005 Attorney for the Administrative Agent for the Debtors' Postpetition Secured Lenders

Attorneys for the Debtors' Prepetition Secured

Lenders

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRUSTEE
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW
BANKRUPTCY SERVICES, LLC
Ballot Processing Department

YORK 757 Third Avenue Alicia M. Leonhard 3rd Floor

33 Whitehall Street New York, NY 10017

21st Floor

New York, NY 10017

The Debtors will publish the Confirmation Hearing Notice, which will contain, among other things, the Plan Objection Deadline, the Voting Deadline, and Confirmation Hearing Date, in the following publications in order to provide notification to those persons who may not receive notice by mail: the USA Today, The New York Times, the Detroit Free Press/Detroit News, Automotive News and the national edition of The Wall Street Journal.

# B. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFIRMATION OF THE PLAN

At the Confirmation Hearing, the Bankruptcy Court shall determine whether the requirements of section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code have been satisfied. If so, the Bankruptcy Court shall enter the Confirmation Order. The Debtors believe that the Plan satisfies or will satisfy the applicable requirements, as follows:

- The Plan complies with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.
- The Debtors, as Plan proponents, will have complied with the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.
- The Plan has been proposed in good faith and not by any means forbidden by law.
- Any payment made or promised under the Plan for services or for costs and expenses in, or in connection with, the Chapter 11 Cases, or in connection with the Plan and incident to the case, has been disclosed to the Bankruptcy Court, and any such payment: (a) made before the Confirmation of the Plan is reasonable; or (b) subject to the approval of the Bankruptcy Court as reasonable if it is to be fixed after the Confirmation of the Plan.
- Either each Holder of an Impaired Claim or Equity Interest has accepted the Plan, or will receive or retain under the Plan on account of that Claim or Equity Interest, property of a value, as of the Effective Date of the Plan, that is not less than the amount that the Holder would receive or retain if the Debtors were liquidated on that date under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code.

- Each Class of Claims or Equity Interests that is entitled to vote on the Plan has either accepted the Plan or is not Impaired under the Plan, or the Plan can be confirmed without the approval of each voting Class pursuant to section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- Except to the extent that the Holder of a particular Claim will agree to a different treatment of its Claim, the Plan provides that Administrative Claims, Priority Tax Claims, Other Priority Claims and Other Secured Claims will be paid in full on the Effective Date, or as soon thereafter as practicable.
- At least one Class of Impaired Claims or Equity Interests will accept the Plan, determined without including any acceptance of the Plan by any insider holding a Claim of that Class.
- Confirmation of the Plan is not likely to be followed by the liquidation or the need for further financial reorganization of the Debtors or any successors thereto under the Plan unless such a liquidation or reorganization is proposed in the Plan.
- All fees of the type described in 28 U.S.C. § 1930, including the fees of the United States Trustee, will be paid as of the Effective Date.

The Debtors believe that: (a) the Plan satisfies or will satisfy all of the statutory requirements of chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code; (b) they have complied or will have complied with all of the requirements of chapter 11; and (c) the Plan has been proposed in good faith.

Best Interests of Creditors Test/Liquidation Analysis

Often called the "best interests" test, section 1129(a)(7) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that the Bankruptcy Court find, as a condition to Confirmation, that the Plan provides, with respect to each Class, that each Holder of a Claim or Equity Interest in such Class either: (1) has accepted the Plan; or (2) will receive or retain under the Plan property of a value, as of the Effective Date, that is not less than the amount that such person would receive or retain if Debtors liquidated under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. To make these findings, the Bankruptcy Court must: (a) estimate the Cash proceeds (the "Liquidation Proceeds") that a chapter 7 trustee would generate if each Debtor's Chapter 11 Case were converted to a chapter 7 case and the assets of such Debtor's Estate were liquidated; (b) determine the distribution ("Liquidation Distribution") that each non-accepting Holder of a Claim or Equity Interest would receive from the Liquidation Proceeds under the priority scheme dictated in chapter 7; and (c) compare each Holder's Liquidation Distribution to the distribution under the Plan ("Plan Distribution") that such Holder would receive if the Plan were Confirmed and consummated.

In chapter 7 liquidation cases, unsecured creditors and interest holders of a debtor are paid from available assets generally in the following order, with no junior Class receiving any payments until all amounts due to senior Classes have been paid fully or any such payment is provided for:

- Secured creditors (to the extent of the value of their collateral);
- Priority creditors;
- Unsecured creditors;
- Debt expressly subordinated by its terms or by order of the Bankruptcy Court; and
- Equity Interest Holders.

As described in more detail in the Liquidation Analysis set forth in Exhibit C hereto, the Debtors believe that the value of any distributions in a chapter 7 case would be less than the value of distributions under the Plan because, among other reasons, distributions in a chapter 7 case may not occur for a longer period of time, thereby reducing the present value of such distributions. In this regard, it is possible that distribution of the proceeds of a liquidation could be delayed for a period in order for a chapter 7 trustee and its professionals to become knowledgeable about these Chapter 11 Cases and the Claims against the Debtors. In addition, proceeds received in a chapter 7 liquidation are likely to be significantly discounted due to the distressed nature of the sale, and the fees and expenses of a chapter 7 trustee would likely further reduce Cash available for distribution.

# Feasibility

Section 1129(a)(11) of the Bankruptcy Code requires the Bankruptcy Court to find, as a condition to confirmation, that confirmation is not likely to be followed by the debtor's liquidation or the need for further financial reorganization, unless that liquidation or reorganization is contemplated by the Plan. The Plan contemplates that all assets of the Debtors will be sold and all proceeds of the assets will be distributed to the Creditors pursuant to the terms of the Plan. Since no further reorganization of the Debtors will be possible, the Debtors believe that the Plan meets the financial feasibility requirement. The Debtors believe that sufficient funds will exist to make all payments required by the Plan.

# Acceptance by Impaired Classes

The Bankruptcy Code requires, as a condition to confirmation, that, except as described in the following section, each Class of Claims or Equity Interests that is impaired under the Plan accept the Plan. A Class that is not "impaired" under a plan is deemed to have accepted the plan and, therefore, solicitation of acceptances with respect to such Class is not required. A Class is "Impaired" unless the plan: (a) leaves unaltered the legal, equitable and contractual rights to which the Claim or Equity Interest entitles the Holder of that Claim or Equity Interest; (b) cures any default and reinstates the original terms of the obligation; or (c) provides that, on the consummation date, the Holder of the Claim or Equity Interest receives Cash equal to the Allowed amount of that Claim or, with respect to any interest, any fixed liquidation preference to which the Equity Interest Holder is entitled or any fixed price at which the Debtors may redeem the security.

Section 1126(c) of the Bankruptcy Code defines acceptance of a plan by a class of impaired claims as acceptance by holders of at least two-thirds in dollar amount and more than one-half in number of claims in that class, but for that purpose counts only those who actually vote to accept or to reject the plan. Thus, a class of claims will have voted to accept the plan only if two-thirds in amount and a majority in number actually voting cast their ballots in favor of acceptance. Under section 1126(d) of the Bankruptcy Code, a class of equity interests has accepted the plan if holders of such equity interests holding at least two-thirds in amount actually voting have voted to accept the plan.

The Claims and Interests in Classes 1, 2 and 3 are not Impaired under the Plan, and as a result the Holders of such Claims are deemed to have accepted the Plan.

Claims in Classes 4, 5, 6 and 7 are Impaired under the Plan, and as a result, the Holders of such Claims are entitled to vote thereon. Pursuant to section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Claims in Classes 4, 5, 6 and 7 must accept the Plan in order for it to be confirmed without application of the "fair and equitable test," described below, to such Classes. As stated above, Classes of Claims will have accepted the Plan if the Plan is accepted by at least two-thirds in amount and a majority in number of the Claims of each such Class (other than any Claims of Creditors designated under section 1126(e) of the Bankruptcy Code) that have voted to accept or reject the Plan.

Claims and Interests in Classes 8 and 9 are also Impaired. The members of these classes will not receive a distribution under the Plan and are not entitled to vote on the Plan.

# Confirmation Without Acceptance by All Impaired Classes

Section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code allows a Bankruptcy Court to confirm a plan, even if all Impaired Classes entitled to vote on the plan have not accepted it, <u>provided that</u> the plan has been accepted by at least one Impaired Class.

Section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code states that, notwithstanding an Impaired Class's failure to accept a plan , the plan shall be confirmed, at the plan proponent's request, in a procedure commonly known as "cram down," so long as the plan does not "discriminate unfairly" and is "fair and equitable" with respect to each Class of Claims or Equity Interests that is Impaired under, and has not accepted, the plan.

In general, a plan does not discriminate unfairly if it treats a class substantially equivalent to how other classes that have equal rank are treated. Courts will take into account a number of factors in determining whether a plan discriminates unfairly, including the effect of applicable subordination agreements between parties.

Accordingly, a plan could treat two classes of unsecured creditors differently without unfairly discriminating against either class.

The condition that a plan be "fair and equitable" to a non-accepting class of secured claims includes the requirements that: (a) the Holders of such secured claims retain the liens securing such Claims to the extent of the allowed amount of the Claims, whether the property subject to the liens is retained by Debtors or transferred to another entity under the plan; and (b) each Holder of a secured claim in the Class receives deferred Cash payments totaling at least the allowed amount of such Claim with a present value, as of the Effective Date of the plan, at least equivalent to the value of the secured claimant's interest in the debtor's property subject to the liens.

The condition that a plan be "fair and equitable" with respect to a non-accepting Class of unsecured Claims includes the following requirement that either: (a) the plan provides that each Holder of a Claim of such Class receive or retain on account of such Claim property of a value, as of the Effective Date of the plan, equal to the allowed amount of such Claim; or (b) the Holder of any Claim or Equity Interest that is junior to the Claims of such Class will not receive or retain under the plan on account of such junior Claim or Equity Interest any property.

The condition that a plan be "fair and equitable" to a non-accepting Class of Equity Interests includes the requirements that either: (a) the plan provides that each Holder of an Equity Interest in that Class receives or retains under the plan, on account of that Equity Interest, property of a value, as of the Effective Date of the plan, equal to the greater of (i) the allowed amount of any fixed liquidation preference to which such Holder is entitled, (ii) any fixed redemption price to which such Holder is entitled or (iii) the value of such interest; or (b) if the Class does not receive such an amount as required under (a), no Class of Equity Interests junior to the non accepting Class may receive a distribution under the plan.

The Plan provides that if any Impaired Class rejects the Plan, the Debtors reserve the right to seek to confirm the Plan utilizing the "cram down" provisions of section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code. To the extent that any Impaired Class rejects the Plan or is deemed to have rejected the Plan, the Debtors will request confirmation of the Plan, as it may be modified from time to time, under section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors reserve the right to alter, amend, modify, revoke or withdraw the Plan or any Plan Exhibit or Schedule, including to amend or modify it to satisfy the requirements of section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, if necessary.

The Debtors submit that if the Debtors "cram down" the Plan pursuant to section 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Plan will be structured such that it does not "discriminate unfairly" and satisfies the "fair and equitable" requirement. With respect to the unfair discrimination requirement, all Classes under the Plan are provided treatment that is substantially equivalent to the treatment that is provided to other Classes that have equal rank.

## C. RISK FACTORS

Prior to deciding whether and how to vote on the Plan, each Holder of a Claim should consider carefully all of the information in this Disclosure Statement, and should particularly consider the Risk Factors described in Section VII, "PLAN-RELATED RISK FACTORS AND ALTERNATIVES TO CONFIRMING AND CONSUMMATING THE PLAN".

### D. IDENTITY OF PERSONS TO CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION

Any interested party desiring further information about the Plan should contact: Counsel for the Debtors: Kirkland & Ellis LLP, 200 East Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois 60601, via e-mail at towerautomotive@kirkland.com or by phone at (312) 233-3075.

### E. DISCLAIMER

In formulating the Plan, the Debtors have relied on financial data derived from books and records. The Debtors therefore represent that everything stated in the Disclosure Statement is true to the best of their knowledge. The Debtors nonetheless cannot, and do not, confirm the current accuracy of all statements appearing in this Disclosure Statement. Moreover, the Bankruptcy Court has not yet determined whether the Plan is confirmable and therefore does not recommend whether you should accept or reject the Plan.

The discussion in the Disclosure Statement regarding the Debtors may contain "forward looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements consist of

any statement other than a recitation of historical fact and can be identified by the use of forward looking terminology such as "may," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate" or "continue" or the negative thereof or other variations thereon or comparable terminology. The reader is cautioned that all forward looking statements are necessarily speculative and there are certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual events or results to differ materially from those referred to in such forward looking statements. The liquidation analyses, distribution projections, and other information are estimates only, and the timing and amount of actual distributions to creditors may be affected by many factors that cannot be predicted. Therefore, any analyses, estimates or recovery projections may or may not turn out to be accurate.

THE DEBTORS AND THEIR PROFESSIONALS HAVE MADE A DILIGENT EFFORT TO IDENTIFY IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PENDING LITIGATION CLAIMS AND PROJECTED OBJECTIONS TO CLAIMS. HOWEVER, NO RELIANCE SHOULD BE PLACED ON THE FACT THAT A PARTICULAR LITIGATION CLAIM OR PROJECTED OBJECTION TO CLAIM IS, OR IS NOT, IDENTIFIED IN THE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT. SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF THE FINAL DIP ORDER, THE TRUSTS MAY SEEK TO INVESTIGATE, FILE AND PROSECUTE LITIGATION CLAIMS AND PROJECTED OBJECTIONS TO CLAIMS AFTER THE CONFIRMATION OR EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE PLAN IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER THE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IDENTIFIES ANY SUCH CLAIMS OR OBJECTIONS TO CLAIMS.

# VII. PLAN-RELATED RISK FACTORS AND ALTERNATIVES TO CONFIRMING AND CONSUMMATING THE PLAN

PRIOR TO VOTING TO ACCEPT OR REJECT THE PLAN, ALL IMPAIRED HOLDERS OF CLAIMS SHOULD READ AND CAREFULLY CONSIDER THE FACTORS SET FORTH BELOW, AS WELL AS ALL OTHER INFORMATION SET FORTH OR OTHERWISE REFERENCED IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT.

### A. GENERAL

The following provides a summary of various important considerations and risk factors associated with the Plan. However, it is not exhaustive. In considering whether to vote for or against the Plan, Holders of Claims or Equity Interests should read and carefully consider the factors set forth below, as well as all other information set forth or otherwise referenced in this Disclosure Statement.

### B. CERTAIN BANKRUPTCY LAW CONSIDERATIONS

Parties-in-Interest May Object To Debtors' Classification of Claims and Equity Interests

Section 1122 of the Bankruptcy Code provides that a plan may place a class or an interest in a particular class only if such claim or interest is substantially similar to the other claims or interests in such class. The Debtors believe that the classification of Claims and Interests under the Plan complies with the requirements set forth in the Bankruptcy Code because the Debtors created nine classes of Claims and Interests, each encompassing Claims or Interests that are substantially similar to the other Claims or Interests in each such class. Nevertheless, there can be no assurance that the Bankruptcy Court will reach the same conclusion.

Failure to Satisfy Vote Requirement

If votes are received in number and amount sufficient to enable the Bankruptcy Court to confirm the Plan, the Debtors intend to seek, as promptly as practicable thereafter, confirmation of the Plan. In the event that sufficient votes are not received, the Debtors may seek to accomplish an alternative Chapter 11 plan. There can be no assurance that the terms of any such alternative Chapter 11 plan would be similar to or as favorable to the Creditors as those proposed in the Plan.

The Debtors May Not be Able to Secure Confirmation of the Plan

There can be no assurance that the requisite acceptances to confirm the Plan will be received. Even if the requisite acceptances are received, there can be no assurance that the Bankruptcy Court will confirm the Plan. A non-accepting creditor or equity holder of Debtors might challenge the adequacy of this Disclosure Statement or the balloting procedures and results as not being in compliance with the Bankruptcy Code or Bankruptcy Rules. Even if

the Bankruptcy Court determined that the Disclosure Statement and the balloting procedures and results were appropriate, the Bankruptcy Court could still decline to confirm the Plan if it found that any of the statutory requirements for confirmation had not been met, including that the terms of the Plan are fair and equitable to non-accepting Classes. Section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code sets forth the requirements for confirmation and requires, among other things, a finding by the Bankruptcy Court that the Plan "does not unfairly discriminate" and is "fair and equitable" with respect to any non-accepting Classes, confirmation of the Plan is not likely to be followed by a liquidation or a need for further financial reorganization and the value of distributions to non-accepting Holders of claims and interests within a particular class under the Plan will not be less than the value of distributions such Holders would receive if Debtors were liquidated under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code. While there can be no assurance that these requirements will be met, the Plan contemplates a liquidation and, therefore, should satisfy the requirement that it will not be followed by a need for further financial reorganization. In addition, the Debtors believe that non-accepting Holders within each Class under the Plan will receive distributions at least as great as would be received following a liquidation under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code when taking into consideration all administrative claims and costs associated with any such chapter 7 case. Debtors believe that Holders of Equity Interests in Debtors would receive no distribution under either a liquidation pursuant to chapter 7 or chapter 11.

The confirmation of the Plan is also subject to certain conditions as described in Section VI hereof. If the Plan is not confirmed, it is unclear what distributions Holders of Claims or Equity Interests ultimately would receive with respect to their Claims or Equity Interests. The cases likely would be converted to cases under chapter 7.

The Debtors, subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan, reserve the right to modify the terms of the Plan as necessary for Confirmation. Any such modification could result in a less favorable treatment of any non accepting Class or Classes, as well as of any Classes junior to such non accepting Classes, than the treatment currently provided in the Plan. Such a less favorable treatment could include a distribution of property to the Class affected by the modification of a lesser value than currently provided in the Plan or no distribution of property whatsoever under the Plan.

The Debtors May Object to the Amount or Classification of a Claim

Except as otherwise provided in the Plan and the Final DIP Order, the Debtors reserve the right to object to the amount or classification of any Claim or Equity Interest deemed Allowed under the Plan. The estimates set forth in this Disclosure Statement cannot be relied on by any Holder of a Claim where such Claim is subject to an objection. Any Holder of a Claim may not receive its specified share of the estimated distributions described in this Disclosure Statement.

# Nonconsensual Confirmation

In the event any impaired class of claims or equity interests does not accept a chapter 11 plan, a bankruptcy court may nevertheless confirm such plan at the proponents' request if at least one impaired class has accepted the plan (with such acceptance being determined without including the vote of any "insider" in such class), and as to each impaired class that has not accepted the plan, the bankruptcy court determines that the plan "does not discriminate unfairly" and is "fair and equitable" with respect to the dissenting impaired classes. The Debtors believe that the Plan satisfies these requirements, and pursuant to the Plan, will request such nonconsensual confirmation in accordance with subsection 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code in the event either Class 4, 5, 6 or 7 accepts the Plan.

Risk of Non-Occurrence of the Effective Date

Although the Debtors believe that the Effective Date may occur very quickly after the Confirmation Date, there can be no assurance as to such timing.

Substantive Consolidation Risks

The Plan is premised upon substantively consolidating certain of the Debtors as set forth in Article X of the Plan for purposes associated with confirming and consummating the Plan, including but not limited to voting, confirmation, distribution and streamlining the Debtors' corporate structure to more properly reflect their operations. The Debtors can provide no assurance, however, that: (a) the Bankruptcy Court will enter an order granting the

Debtors' motion for substantive consolidation contemplated by the Plan; or (b) the Bankruptcy Court will overrule any objection that a party-in-interest might have to such substantive consolidation.

Contingencies Not to Affect Votes of Impaired Classes to Accept the Plan

The distributions available to Holders of Allowed Claims under the Plan can be affected by a variety of contingencies, including, without limitation, whether or not the Debtors are consolidated and whether the Bankruptcy Court orders certain Claims to be subordinated to other Claims. The occurrence of any and all such contingencies which could affect distributions available to Holders of Allowed Claims under the Plan, however, will not affect the validity of the vote taken by the Impaired Classes to accept or reject the Plan or require any sort of revote by the Impaired Classes.

# C. FACTORS AFFECTING THE POTENTIAL RECOVERIES OF HOLDERS OF CLAIMS IN VOTING CLASSES

As emphasized at various points throughout this Disclosure Statement, the Debtors cannot state with any degree of certainty what recovery will be available to Holders of Claims in Voting Classes. Three unknown factors make certainty impossible. First, we cannot know, at this time, how much money will remain after paying all Allowed Claims which are senior to the Claims of Holders in Voting Classes. Second, we cannot know with any certainty, at this time, the number or size of Claims in Voting Classes which will ultimately be Allowed. Third, we cannot know with certainty, at this time, the number or size of Claims in Classes senior to the Voting Classes, or Unclassified Claims, which will ultimately be Allowed.

### D. THE DEBTORS MAY BE UNABLE TO CLOSE THE SALE TRANSACTION

The Debtors currently anticipate that they will be able to close the Sale Transaction with TA Acquisition Company, LLC or an alternative purchaser with a higher and better offer (the "Purchaser"). There are many factors outside of the Debtors' control, however, including the ability of the Debtors to obtain necessary governmental consents to the sale or transfer of certain of their assets. Moreover, it is possible that the Debtors may not be able to meet various closing conditions, and that the Purchaser would elect to cancel the Sale Transaction as a result of these failures. Consequently, the Debtors can provide no assurance that they will be successful in consummating the Sale Transaction.

### E. THE BANKRUPTCY COURT MAY DECLINE TO MODIFY RETIREE BENEFITS

As described in Section III.D above, to accommodate confirmation of the Plan the Debtors may need to file a second 1114 motion. If filed, the Debtors can provide no assurances that the Bankruptcy Court will grant the Debtors' Second 1114 Motion.

### F. FINANCIAL INFORMATION; DISCLAIMER

Although the Debtors have used their reasonable best efforts to ensure the accuracy of the financial information provided in this Disclosure Statement, some of the financial information contained in this Disclosure Statement has not been audited and is based upon an analysis of data available at the time of the preparation of the Plan and this Disclosure Statement. While the Debtors believe that such financial information fairly reflects the financial condition of the Debtors, the Debtors are unable to warrant or represent that the information contained herein and attached hereto is without inaccuracies.

# G. FACTORS AFFECTING THE DEBTORS

# 1. <u>Litigation Risks</u>

From time-to-time, the Debtors are subject to claims or litigation incidental to their business. As of the date of the Disclosure Statement, the Debtors are not currently involved in any legal proceedings that, individually or in the aggregate, are expected to have a material effect on their business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. The Debtors' major pending litigation includes the following matters:

On November 29, 2005, the Debtors' joint venture partner in Metalsa, Grupo Proeza, S.A. de C.V. ("Proeza") filed a lawsuit in Mexico against Tower Mexico, Metalsa, and certain of Tower Mexico's directors. Proeza's lawsuit alleges certain breaches of Tower Mexico's obligations under the governing documents of the joint

venture and asserts certain rights in connection with the alleged change in control of Tower Mexico. As a result of these allegations, Proeza seeks either the rescission of the joint venture relationship or the redemption of Tower Mexico's investment in Metalsa. The Debtors believe that Proeza's claims and assertions are without merit and have vigorously defended this matter, including the venue of the litigation. Thus far, the Mexican courts have ruled in Proeza's favor on the question of jurisdiction and the issue is on appeal.

In addition, the Debtors initiated an adversary proceeding against Proeza in the Chapter 11 Cases. In the adversary proceeding, the Debtors alleged that Proeza filed the Mexico lawsuit in violation of the governing documents of the joint venture and sought an order staying the Mexico lawsuit and compelling Proeza to arbitrate the claims raised therein under the auspices of the International Chamber of Commerce ("ICC") in Paris, France. The Bankruptcy Court dismissed the adversary proceeding as outside its jurisdiction.

The Debtors have also filed with the ICC a request for arbitration of the disputes raised in the Mexico lawsuits. An ICC tribunal has been assembled to review and rule on the jurisdictional question.

### 2. Environmental Liability Factors

The Debtors are subject to federal, foreign, state and local laws and regulations governing the protection of the environment and occupational health and safety, including laws regulating the generation, storage, handling, use and transportation of hazardous materials; the emission and discharge of hazardous materials into soil, air or water; and the health and safety of its colleagues. The Debtors are also required to obtain permits from governmental authorities for certain operations. The Debtors have taken steps to assist in the compliance with the numerous and sometimes complex regulations, such as holding environmental and safety training sessions for representatives from its domestic facilities. The Debtors have achieved TS 16949 registration for substantially all of their facilities. The Debtors conduct third party or internal audits for environmental, health, and safety compliance, and uses outside expertise to assist in the filing of permits and reports when required.

Compliance with federal, state and local provisions relating to the discharge of materials into the environment, or otherwise relating to the protection of the environment, has not had a material impact on the Debtors' capital expenditures, earnings or competitive position. The Debtors are not currently aware of any significant liability exposure with respect to laws imposing liability for the cleanup of contaminated property to which they may have sent wastes for disposal.

The Debtors own properties which have been impacted by environmental releases. At some of these properties, the Debtors are liable for costs associated with investigation and/or remediation of contamination in one or more environmental media. The Debtors are currently actively involved in investigation and/or remediation at several of these locations. At certain of these locations, costs incurred for environmental investigation and/or remediation are being paid partly or completely out of funds placed into escrow by previous property owners. Nonetheless, total costs associated with remediating environmental contamination at these properties could be substantial and may be material to the Debtors' financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. At December 31, 2005 and 2004, the Debtors had recorded liabilities of \$11.4 million and \$16.3 million for environmental remediation liabilities.

### H. CERTAIN TAX MATTERS

For a summary of certain federal income tax consequences of the Plan to certain Holders of Claims and to the Debtors, see Section VII below, entitled "Certain Federal Income Tax Consequences."

# I. RISK THAT THE INFORMATION IN THIS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT MAY BE INACCURATE

The statements contained in this Disclosure Statement are made by the Debtors as of the date hereof, unless otherwise specified herein, and the delivery of this Disclosure Statement after that date does not imply that there has not been a change since that date in the information set forth herein. The Debtors may subsequently update the information in this Disclosure Statement, but they have no duty to update this Disclosure Statement unless ordered to do so by the Court. Further, the proforma and prospective financial information contained herein, unless otherwise expressly indicated, is unaudited. Finally, neither the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other governmental authority has passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Disclosure Statement, the Plan, or any Exhibits thereto.

# J. LIQUIDATION UNDER CHAPTER 7

If no plan can be confirmed, the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases may be converted to cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code, pursuant to which a trustee would be elected or appointed to liquidate the assets of the Debtors for distribution in accordance with the priorities established by the Bankruptcy Code. A discussion of the effects that a chapter 7 liquidation would have on the recoveries of Holders of Claims and Equity Interests and the Debtors' liquidation analysis is set forth in Article VI above entitled "CONFIRMATION PROCEDURES" and Exhibit C.

THESE RISK FACTORS CONTAIN CERTAIN STATEMENTS THAT ARE "FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS" WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE PRIVATE SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT OF 1995. THESE STATEMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO A NUMBER OF ASSUMPTIONS, RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES, MANY OF WHICH ARE BEYOND THE CONTROL OF THE DEBTORS, INCLUDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN, THE CONTINUING AVAILABILITY OF SUFFICIENT BORROWING CAPACITY OR OTHER FINANCING TO FUND OPERATIONS, CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE FLUCTUATIONS, TERRORIST ACTIONS OR ACTS OF WAR, OPERATING EFFICIENCIES, LABOR RELATIONS, ACTIONS OF GOVERNMENTAL BODIES AND OTHER MARKET AND COMPETITIVE CONDITIONS. HOLDERS OF CLAIMS AND EQUITY INTERESTS ARE CAUTIONED THAT THE FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS SPEAK AS OF THE DATE MADE AND ARE NOT GUARANTEES OF FUTURE PERFORMANCE. ACTUAL RESULTS OR DEVELOPMENTS MAY DIFFER MATERIALLY FROM THE EXPECTATIONS EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED IN THE FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS AND THE DEBTORS UNDERTAKE NO OBLIGATION TO UPDATE ANY SUCH STATEMENTS.

### VIII. CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES

The following is a summary of certain U.S. federal income tax consequences of the Plan to the Debtors and certain Creditors, including without limitation Holders of 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, RJ Tower Bondholder Claims, General Unsecured Claims, 6.75% Debenture Related Claims, Preferred Equity Interests and Common Equity Interests. This summary is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"), Treasury Regulations thereunder, and administrative and judicial interpretations and practice, all as in effect on the date hereof and all of which are subject to change, with possible retroactive effect. Due to the lack of definitive judicial and administrative authority in a number of areas, substantial uncertainty may exist with respect to some of the tax consequences described below. No opinion of counsel has been obtained, and the Debtors do not intend to seek a ruling from the IRS as to any of such tax consequences, and there can be no assurance that the IRS will not challenge one or more of the tax consequences of the Plan described below.

This summary does not apply to Holders of Claims that are not United States persons (as defined in the Internal Revenue Code) or that are otherwise subject to special treatment under U.S. federal income tax law (including, but not limited to, banks, governmental authorities or agencies, financial institutions, insurance companies, pass-through entities, tax-exempt organizations, brokers and dealers in securities, mutual funds, small business investment companies, and regulated investment companies). The following discussion assumes that Holders of 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, RJ Tower Bondholder Claims, General Unsecured Claims, 6.75% Debenture Related Claims, Preferred Equity Interests and Common Equity Interests hold such interests as "capital assets" within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code § 1221. Moreover, this summary does not purport to cover all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may apply to the Debtors and Holders of 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, RJ Tower Bondholder Claims, General Unsecured Claims, 6.75% Debenture Related Claims, Preferred Equity Interests and Common Equity Interests based upon their particular circumstances. Additionally, this summary does not discuss any tax consequences that may arise under state, local, or foreign tax law.

The Debtors continue to explore various possible alternative structures to maximize the going concern value of the Debtors' Estates. In this regard, if the Debtors determine that an alternative structure should be implemented, the Plan may be modified to effectuate such alternate structure, provided that such modifications shall not adversely affect the treatment and recoveries of Holders of Claims and Equity Interests set forth herein.

The following summary is not a substitute for careful tax planning and advice based on the particular circumstances of each Creditor, including without limitation, Holders of 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, RJ Tower Bondholder Claims, General Unsecured Claims, 6.75% Debenture Related Claims,

Preferred Equity Interests and Common Equity Interests. All Creditors are urged to consult their own tax advisors as to the U.S. federal income tax consequences, as well as any applicable state, local, and foreign consequences, of the restructuring.

### IRS Circular 230 Disclosure

To ensure compliance with requirements imposed by the IRS, any tax advice contained in this Disclosure Statement is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, by any taxpayer for the purpose of avoiding tax-related penalties under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. The tax advice contained in this Disclosure Statement was written to support the promotion or marketing of the transactions described in this Disclosure Statement. Each taxpayer should seek advice based on the taxpayer's particular circumstances from an independent tax advisor.

# A. CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THE HOLDERS OF CLAIMS AND EQUITY INTERESTS

# 1. Consequences to Holders of Unsecured Claims

Pursuant to the Plan, the 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, the International Holding Company Debtor Claims and the General Unsecured Claims (collectively the "Unsecured Claims") will be surrendered for Cash or for shares of the Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets or Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets (the "Recovery Shares"). This will be treated as a taxable exchange under Section 1001 of the Internal Revenue Code. Accordingly, Holders of the Unsecured Claims should recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between: (i) the fair market value of any Cash or Recovery Shares received in exchange for the Unsecured Claims; and (ii) the Holder's adjusted basis, if any, in the Unsecured Claims. Such gain or loss should be capital in nature so long as the Unsecured Claims are held as capital assets (subject to the "market discount" rules described below) and should be long term capital gain or loss if the Unsecured Claims were held for more than one year. To the extent that a portion of the Cash or Recovery Shares received in exchange for the Unsecured Claims is allocable to accrued but untaxed interest, the Holder may recognize ordinary income. See "Accrued But Untaxed Interest" below.

The fair market value of the Recovery Shares is contingent in part on the outcome of certain Chapter 5 Claims or other causes of action included in either the Post-Consummation Trust or the Unsecured Creditors Trust. It is therefore plausible that a Holder could treat the transaction as an 'open' transaction for tax purposes, in which case the recognition of any gain or loss on the transaction might be deferred pending the determination of the amount of any recoveries under Chapter 5 Claims or other causes of action included in the Recovery Shares. The federal income tax consequences of an open transaction are uncertain and highly complex, and a Holder should consult with its own tax advisor if it believes open transaction treatment might be appropriate.

### (a) Accrued But Untaxed Interest

To the extent that any amount received under the Plan by a Holder is attributable to accrued but untaxed interest, such amount should be taxable to the Holder as ordinary interest income, if such accrued interest has not been previously included in the Holder's gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Conversely, a Holder may be able to recognize a deductible loss (or, possibly, a write-off against a reserve for bad debts) to the extent that any accrued interest was previously included in the Holder's gross income but was not paid in full by Debtor.

The extent to which amounts received by a Holder will be attributable to accrued but untaxed interest is unclear. Under the Plan, the aggregate consideration to be distributed to Holders of Allowed Claims in each Class will be treated as first satisfying an amount equal to the stated principal amount of the Allowed Claim for such Holders and any remaining consideration as satisfying accrued, but unpaid, interest, if any. Certain legislative history indicates that an allocation of consideration as between principal and interest provided in a bankruptcy plan is binding for U.S. federal income tax purposes. However, the IRS could take the position that the consideration received by a Holder should be allocated in some way other than as provided in the Plan. Holders of 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, RJ Tower Bondholder Claims, and General Unsecured Claims should consult their own tax advisors regarding the proper allocation of the consideration received by them under the Plan.

# (b) Market Discount

Holders who exchange 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, RJ Tower Bondholder Claims, and General Unsecured Claims for Cash or Recovery Shares may be affected by the "market discount" provisions of Internal Revenue Code Sections 1276 through 1278. Under these rules, some or all of the gain realized by a Holder may be treated as ordinary income (instead of capital gain), to the extent of the amount of "market discount" on such 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, RJ Tower Bondholder Claims, and General Unsecured Claims.

In general, a debt obligation with a fixed maturity of more than one year that is acquired by a holder on the secondary market (or, in certain circumstances, upon original issuance) is considered to be acquired with "market discount" as to that holder if the debt obligation's stated redemption price at maturity (or revised issue price, in the case of a debt obligation issued with original issue discount) exceeds the tax basis of the debt obligation in the holder's hands immediately after its acquisition. However, a debt obligation will not be a "market discount bond" if such excess is less than a statutory de minimis amount (equal to 0.25 percent of the debt obligation's stated redemption price at maturity or revised issue price, in the case of a debt obligation issued with original issue discount).

Any gain recognized by a Holder on the taxable disposition of 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, RJ Tower Bondholder Claims, and General Unsecured Claims (determined as described above) that were acquired with market discount should be treated as ordinary income to the extent of the market discount that accrued thereon while the 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims, RJ Tower Bondholder Claims, and General Unsecured Claims were considered to be held by a Holder (unless the Holder elected to include market discount in income as it accrued).

### (c) Receipt of Interests in Post-Consummation Trust and in the Unsecured Creditors Trust

On the Effective Date, the Post-Consummation Trust and the Unsecured Creditors Trust shall be settled and are currently anticipated to exist as grantor trusts for the benefit of certain creditors. Subject to definitive guidance from the IRS or a court of competent jurisdiction to the contrary (including the receipt of an adverse determination by the IRS upon audit if not contested by the Plan Administrator or the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator), pursuant to Treasury Regulation Section 1.671-1(a) and/or Treasury Regulation Section 301.7701 4(d) and related regulations, the Plan Administrator and the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator may designate and file returns for each of the Post-Consummation Trust and the Unsecured Creditors Trust as a "grantor trust" and/or "liquidating trust" and therefore, for federal income tax purposes, the Post-Consummation Trust's and Unsecured Creditors Trust's taxable income (or loss) should be allocated pro rata to its beneficiaries.

The Plan Administrator and the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator intend to take a position on Post-Consummation Trust's and Unsecured Creditors Trust's tax return that the Post-Consummation Trust and the Unsecured Creditors Trust, respectively, should each be treated as a grantor trust set up for the benefit of creditors.

Holders of Claims that receive a beneficial interest in the Post-Consummation Trust and in the Unsecured Creditors Trust will be required to report on their U.S. federal income tax returns their share of the Post-Consummation Trust's and the Unsecured Creditors Trust's items of income, gain, loss, deduction and credit in the year recognized by the Post-Consummation Trust and the Unsecured Creditors Trust, respectively, whether or not each of the Post-Consummation Trust and the Unsecured Creditors Trust is taxed as a grantor trust. This requirement may result in Holders being subject to tax on their allocable share of the Post-Consummation Trust's and the Unsecured Creditors Trust's taxable income prior to receiving any cash distributions from the Post-Consummation Trust and the Unsecured Creditors Trust.

Any Post-Consummation Trust Assets and Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets held by the Post-Consummation Trust and the Unsecured Creditors Trust on account of Disputed Claims shall be treated as held in trust by the Post-Consummation Trust and the Unsecured Creditors Trust as fiduciary for the benefit of holders of Disputed Claims (each such trust referred to as a "Disputed Claims Reserve").

Under section 468B(g) of the Tax Code, amounts earned by an escrow account, settlement fund or similar fund must be subject to current tax. Although certain Treasury Regulations have been issued under this section, no Treasury Regulations have as yet been promulgated to address the tax treatment of such accounts in a bankruptcy setting. Thus, depending on the facts of a particular situation, such an account could be treated as a separately taxable trust, as a grantor trust treated as owned by the holders of disputed claims or by the Debtor (or, if applicable,

any of its successors), or otherwise. On February 1, 1999, the IRS issued proposed Treasury Regulations that, if finalized in their current form, would specify the tax treatment of reserves of the type here involved that are established after the date such Treasury Regulations become final. In general, such Treasury Regulations would tax such a reserve as a "qualified settlement fund" under Treasury Regulation sections 1.468B-1 et seq. and thus subject to a separate entity level tax. As to previously established escrows and the like, such Treasury Regulations would provide that the IRS would not challenge any reasonably, consistently applied method of taxation for income earned by the escrow or account, and any reasonably, consistently applied method for reporting such income.

Absent definitive guidance from the IRS or a court of competent jurisdiction to the contrary, the Post-Consummation Trust and the Unsecured Creditors Trust shall (i) treat each Disputed Claims Reserve as a discrete trust for federal income tax purposes, consisting of separate and independent shares to be established in respect of each disputed claim in the class of claims to which such reserve relates, in accordance with the trust provisions of Code, and (ii) to the extent permitted by applicable law, report consistently for state and local income tax purposes. In addition, pursuant to the Plan, all parties shall report consistently with such treatment.

Accordingly, subject to issuance of definitive guidance, the Post-Consummation Trust and the Unsecured Creditors Trust, in each case as fiduciary for Holders of Disputed Claims, will report as subject to a separate entity level tax any amounts earned by their respective Disputed Claims Reserves, except to the extent such earnings are distributed by such fiduciary during the same taxable year. In such event, any amount earned by a Disputed Claims Reserve that is distributed to a holder during the same taxable year will be includible in such holder's gross income.

Distributions from a Disputed Claims Reserve will be made to Holders of Disputed Claims when such claims are subsequently Allowed and to Holders of previously Allowed claims when any Disputed Claims are subsequently disallowed. Such distributions (other than amounts attributable to earnings) should be taxable to the recipient in accordance with the principles discussed above.

Holders of Claims are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding the tax consequences of the right to receive and of the receipt (if any) of property from the Post-Consummation Trust and/or the Unsecured Creditors Trust and each Holder of a Disputed Claim is urged to consult its tax advisor regarding the potential tax treatment of the Disputed Claim Reserve, distributions therefrom, and any tax consequences to such Holder relating thereto.

### 2. Consequences to Holders of 6.75% Debenture Related Claims

Holders of 6.75% Debenture Related Claims will receive no distribution on account of such Claims. Holders of 6.75% Debenture Related Claims should be entitled to a loss deduction provided that such deduction was not previously claimed by such Holders and provided such Holders have a tax basis in their 6.75% Debenture Related Claims. The loss realized on the cancellation of 6.75% Debenture Related Claims should be a capital loss under Internal Revenue Code Section 165 if such claims are treated as "securities" under Internal Revenue Code Section 165(g)(2). If 6.75% Debenture Related Claims are not treated as "securities" under Internal Revenue Code Section 165(g)(2), the loss realized on the cancellation of 6.75% Debenture Related Claims may be a capital loss or an ordinary loss under Internal Revenue Code Section 166, depending on the facts and circumstances of the Holder, the obligor, and the instrument with respect to which a deduction is claimed.

### 3. Consequences to Holders of Preferred Equity Interests and Common Equity Interests

Holders of Preferred Equity Interests and Common Equity Interests that are cancelled in the Plan will be allowed a worthless stock deduction (unless such Holder had previously claimed a worthless stock deduction with respect to any Preferred Equity Interests and Common Equity Interests and assuming that the taxable year that includes the Plan is the same taxable year in which such stock first became worthless) in an amount equal to the Holder's adjusted basis in the Preferred Equity Interests and/or Common Equity Interests. A worthless stock deduction is a deduction allowed to a Holder of a corporation's stock for the taxable year in which such stock becomes worthless. If the Holder held Preferred Equity Interests and Common Equity Interests as a capital asset, the loss will be treated as a loss from the sale or exchange of such capital asset.

### 4. <u>Information Reporting and Backup Withholding</u>

Under the backup withholding rules, a Holder of a Claim may be subject to backup withholding with respect to distributions or payments made pursuant to the Plan unless that Holder: (a) comes within certain exempt

categories (which generally include corporations) and, when required, demonstrates that fact, or (b) provides a correct taxpayer identification number and certifies under penalty of perjury that the taxpayer identification number is correct and that the Holder is not subject to backup withholding because of a failure to report all dividend and interest income. Backup withholding is not an additional tax, but merely an advance payment that may be refunded to the extent it results in an overpayment of tax.

Debtor will withhold all amounts required by law to be withheld from payments of interest and dividends. Debtor will comply with all applicable reporting requirements of the Internal Revenue Code.

THE FOREGOING SUMMARY DOES NOT DISCUSS ALL ASPECTS OF U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION THAT MAY BE RELEVANT TO A PARTICULAR HOLDER IN LIGHT OF SUCH HOLDER'S CIRCUMSTANCES AND INCOME TAX SITUATION. ALL HOLDERS OF CLAIMS AGAINST AND INTERESTS IN THE DEBTORS SHOULD CONSULT WITH THEIR TAX ADVISORS AS TO THE PARTICULAR TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF THE TRANSACTION CONTEMPLATED BY THE RESTRUCTURING, INCLUDING THE APPLICABILITY AND EFFECT OF ANY STATE, LOCAL, OR FOREIGN TAX LAWS, AND OF ANY CHANGE IN APPLICABLE TAX LAWS.

### B. CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES TO DEBTORS

The Sale Transaction will constitute a taxable sale of the Acquired Assets. The Debtors will recognize gain or loss on the Sale Transaction equal to the difference between: (i) the fair market value of the Sale Proceeds and the Assumed Liabilities; and (ii) the Debtors' adjusted basis in the Acquired Assets. The Debtors expect that gain, if any, as a result of the Sale Transaction will be offset by net operating losses carried forward from prior tax periods.

# IX. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- 1. "5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims" means all Claims derived from or based upon the 5.75% Convertible Senior Notes and the 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Indenture.
- 2. "5.75% Convertible Senior Note Indenture" means that certain indenture between Tower Automotive, Inc., and BNY Midwest Trust Company, as trustee, and HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as successor indenture trustee, dated May 24, 2004.
- 3. "5.75% *Convertible Senior Notes*" means the 5.75% convertible senior notes due May 15, 2024, issued pursuant to the 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Indenture.
- 4. "6.75% Debenture Related Claims" means all Claims derived from or based upon (a) the 6.75% Trust Convertible Subordinated Debenture, and (b) the 6.75% Trust Preferred Securities.
- 5. "6.75% Trust Convertible Subordinated Debenture" means that certain debenture between Tower Automotive, Inc. and The First National Bank of Chicago, as trustee, and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as successor trustee, dated June 9, 1998, pursuant to which Tower Automotive Capital Trust issued the 6.75% Trust Preferred Securities.
- 6. "6.75% Trust Convertible Subordinated Debenture Claims" means all Claims derived from or based upon the 6.75% Trust Convertible Subordinated Debenture and the 6.75% Trust Preferred Securities.
- 7. "6.75% Trust Preferred Securities" means the \$258.8 million of trust preferred securities issued by Tower Automotive Capital Trust.
- 8. "9.25% Senior Euro Note Claims" means all Claims derived from or based upon the 9.25% Senior Euro Notes and the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Indenture.
- 9. "9.25% Senior Euro Note Indenture" means that certain indenture between R.J. Tower, the guarantors named therein, and the United States Trust Company of New York, as trustee, and Bank of New York, as successor trustee, dated July 25, 2000.
- 10. "9.25% Senior Euro Notes" means those 9.25% senior notes due August 1, 2010, issued pursuant to the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Indenture.
- 11. "12% Senior Note Claims" means all Claims derived from or based upon the 12% Senior Notes and the 12% Senior Note Indenture.
- 12. "12% Senior Note Indenture" means that certain indenture among R.J. Tower, Tower, Inc., the subsidiary guarantors named therein and BNY Midwest Trust Company, as trustee, dated June 13, 2003.
- 13. "12% Senior Notes" means those 12% senior notes due June 1, 2013, issued pursuant to the 12% Senior Note Indenture.
- 14. "Accrued Professional Compensation" means, at any given moment, all accrued and/or unpaid fees and expenses (including, but not limited to, success fees and Allowed Professional Compensation) for legal, financial advisory, accounting and other services and reimbursement of expenses that are awardable and allowable under sections 328, 330(a) or 331 of the Bankruptcy Code or otherwise rendered prior to the Confirmation Date by all Retained Professionals in the Chapter 11 Cases that the Bankruptcy Court has not denied by a Final Order, to the extent that any such fees and expenses have not been previously paid regardless of whether a fee application has been filed for any such amount. To the extent that the Bankruptcy Court or any higher court denies or reduces by a Final Order any amount of a Retained Professional's fees or expenses, then those reduced or denied amounts shall no longer constitute Accrued Professional Compensation.
  - 15. "Acquired Assets" shall have the meaning set forth in the Purchase Agreement.
  - 16. "Administrative Claim" means a Claim for costs and expenses of administration of the Estates

under sections 503(b), 507(b) or 1114(e)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code, including, but not limited to: (a) the actual and necessary costs and expenses incurred after the Petition Date of preserving the respective Estates and operating the businesses of the Debtors; (b) Allowed Professional Compensation; and (c) all fees and charges assessed against the Estates under chapter 123 of title 28 United States Code, 28 U.S.C. §§ 1911-1930.

- 17. "Affiliate" has the meaning set forth at section 101(2) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 18. "Allowed" means, with respect to any Claim, except as otherwise provided herein: (a) a Claim that has been scheduled by the Debtors in their Schedules as neither disputed, contingent nor unliquidated and for which the claim amount has not been identified as unknown, and as to which Debtors or other party in interest has not Filed an objection by the Claims Objection Bar Date; (b) a Claim that either is not a Disputed Claim or has been allowed by a Final Order; (c) a Claim that is allowed: (i) pursuant to this Plan; (ii) in any stipulation of amount and nature of Claim executed prior to the Confirmation Date and approved by the Bankruptcy Court; (iii) in any stipulation with Debtors of amount and nature of Claim executed on or after the Confirmation Date and approved by the Bankruptcy Court after notice (including notice to the Purchaser) and a hearing; or (iv) in or pursuant to any contract, instrument, indenture or other agreement entered into or assumed in connection herewith; (d) a Claim relating to a rejected Executory Contract or Unexpired Lease that either (i) is not a Disputed Claim or (ii) has been allowed by a Final Order, in either case only if a proof of Claim has been Filed by the applicable bar date or has otherwise been deemed timely Filed under applicable law; (e) a Claim that is allowed pursuant to the terms hereof; or (f) a Disputed Claim as to which a proof of claim has been timely filed and as to which no objection has been filed by the Claims Objection Bar Date.
- 19. "Allowed Professional Compensation" means all Accrued Professional Compensation allowed or awarded by a Final Order of the Bankruptcy Court or any other court of competent jurisdiction.
- 20. "Allowed ... Claim" means an Allowed Claim in the particular Class or category specified. Any reference herein to a particular Allowed Claim includes both the secured and unsecured portions of such Claim, as applicable.
- 21. "Assumed Contracts" means those contracts and leases of the Debtors to be assumed and assigned to the Purchaser pursuant to the Purchase Agreement.
  - 22. "Assumed Liabilities" has the meaning set forth in the Purchase Agreement.
  - 23. "Auction" has the meaning set forth in the Marketing Protocol.
- 24. "Ballots" mean the ballots accompanying the Disclosure Statement upon which Holders of Impaired Claims entitled to vote shall, among other things, indicate their acceptance or rejection of the Plan in accordance with the Plan and the Voting Instructions, and which must be actually received on or before the Voting Deadline.
- 25. "Bankruptcy Code" means title I of the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978, as set forth in sections 101 et seq. of title 11 of the United States Code, and applicable portions of titles 18 and 28 of the United States Code, in each case, as applicable to the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 26. "Bankruptcy Court" means, collectively, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York, having jurisdiction over the Chapter 11 Cases and, to the extent of the withdrawal of any reference under section 157 of title 28 of the United States Code and/or the General Order of the District Court pursuant to section 151 of title 28 of the United States Code, the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.
- 27. "Bankruptcy Rules" means, collectively, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, as amended from time to time, as applicable to the Chapter 11 Cases, promulgated under 28 U.S.C. § 2075 and the General, Local and Chambers Rules of the Bankruptcy Court.
- 28. "Beneficiaries" means the Holders of Claims that are to be satisfied under the Plan by post-Effective Date distributions to be made by the Trusts, respectively.

- 29. "Business Day" means any day, other than a Saturday, Sunday or "legal holiday" (as defined in Bankruptcy Rule 9006(a)).
- 30. "Cash" means legal tender of the United States of America or the equivalent thereof, including bank deposits, checks and Cash Equivalents.
- 31. "Cash Equivalents" means equivalents of Cash in the form of readily marketable securities or instruments issued by a Person, including, without limitation, readily marketable direct obligations of, or obligations guaranteed by, the United States of America, commercial paper of domestic corporations carrying a Moody's rating of "A" or better, or equivalent rating of any other nationally recognized rating service, or interest bearing certificates of deposit or other similar obligations of domestic banks or other financial institutions having a shareholders' equity or capital of not less than one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) having maturities of not more than one (1) year, at the then best generally available rates of interest for like amounts and like periods.
- 32. "Causes of Action" means all actions, causes of action, claims, liabilities, obligations, rights, suits, debts, damages, judgments, remedies, demands, setoffs, defenses, recoupments, crossclaims, counterclaims, third-party claims, indemnity claims, contribution claims or any other claims disputed or undisputed, suspected or unsuspected, foreseen or unforeseen, direct or indirect, choate or inchoate, existing or hereafter arising, in law, equity or otherwise, based on whole or in part upon any act or omission or other event occurring prior to the Petition Date or during the course of the Chapter 11 Cases, including through the Effective Date.
- 33. "Chapter 5 Claims" means any and all avoidance, recovery, subordination or other actions or remedies that may be brought on behalf of the Debtors or their estates under the Bankruptcy Code or applicable non bankruptcy law, including, without limitation, actions or remedies under sections 510, 542, 543, 544, 545, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553(b) and 724(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 34. "Chapter 11 Cases" means (i) when used with reference to a particular Debtor, the chapter 11 case pending for that Debtor under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the Bankruptcy Court and (ii) when used with reference to all Debtors, the procedurally consolidated chapter 11 cases pending for the Debtors in the Bankruptcy Court.
- 35. "Claim" means a "claim" (as defined in section 101(a)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code) against a Debtor.
- 36. "Claims Objection Bar Date" means, for each Claim, the later of (a) 365 days after the Effective Date, and (b) such other period of limitation as may be specifically fixed by an order of the Bankruptcy Court for objecting to such Claims.
- 37. "Class" means a category of Holders of Claims or Equity Interests as set forth in Article III of the Plan pursuant to section 1122(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 38. "Class 6 Recovery" means its Pro Rata share of the proceeds of the Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets.
- 39. "Class 7 General Unsecured Creditor" means each Holder of a General Unsecured Claim against any of the Debtors other than R.J. Tower, and each Holder of a Reclamation Claim.
- 40. "Class 7 Recovery" means its Pro Rata share of the proceeds of the Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets.
- 41. "Committee" means the official committee of unsecured creditors of the Debtors appointed by the United States Trustee in the Chapter 11 Cases on February 15, 2005, pursuant to section 1102 of the Bankruptcy Code, comprising the Committee Members and as reconstituted from time to time.
- 42. "Committee Members" means the members of the Committee, namely: (i) MST Steel Corporation of Kentucky, (ii) The Bank of New York, as Indenture Trustee, (iii) HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as Indenture Trustee, (iv) Camulos Capital LP, (v) Comau Pico, (vi) Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as

Indenture Trustee, and (vii) Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, and any predecessors of such entities.

- 43. "Committee Professionals" means Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, as legal advisor to the Committee; Houlihan, Lokey, Howard & Zukin, as financial advisor to the Committee; Cervantes, Aguilar-Alvarez y Sainz, S.C. as special Mexican counsel; and Stutman Treister & Glatt, as conflicts counsel.
- 44. "Common Equity Interest" means any common Equity Interest in a Debtor that existed immediately prior to the Effective Date, including, but not limited to, all issued, unissued, authorized or outstanding shares of common stock, together with any warrants, options or legal, contractual or equitable rights to purchase or acquire such interests at any time.
- 45. "Confirmation" means the entry of the Confirmation Order on the docket of the Chapter 11 Cases, subject to all conditions specified in Article XI.A of the Plan having been: (a) satisfied; or (b) waived pursuant to Article XI.C of the Plan.
- 46. "Confirmation Date" means the date upon which the Bankruptcy Court enters the Confirmation Order on the docket of the Chapter 11 Cases, within the meaning of Bankruptcy Rule 5003 and 9021.
- 47. "Confirmation Hearing" means the hearing held by the Bankruptcy Court on confirmation of the Plan pursuant to section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code, as such hearing may be continued from time to time.
- 48. "Confirmation Order" means the order of the Bankruptcy Court confirming the Plan pursuant to section 1129 of the Bankruptcy Code.
  - 49. "Consummation" means the occurrence of the Effective Date.
  - 50. "Creditor" means any Holder of a Claim.
- 51. "Debtor" means one of the Debtors, in its individual capacity as a debtor in these Chapter 11 Cases.
- 52. "Debtor Release" means the release given by the Debtors to the Debtor Releasees set forth in Article XIII.B of the Plan.
- 53. "Debtor Releasees" means, collectively, (a) all current and former officers, directors and employees of the Debtors and their subsidiaries, (b) all attorneys, financial advisors, accountants, investment bankers, investment advisors, actuaries, professionals, agents (including those jointly retained with the Committee), affiliates and representatives of the Debtors and their subsidiaries and (c) the Third Party Releasees, their respective predecessors and successors in interest, and all of their respective current and former members (including ex officio members), officers, directors, employees, partners, attorneys, financial advisors, accountants, investment bankers, investment advisors, actuaries, professionals, agents, affiliates and representatives.
- 54. "Debtors" means, collectively, Tower Automotive, Inc.; Algoods, USA, Inc.; R.J. Tower Corporation; Tower Automotive Bardstown, Inc.; Tower Automotive Bowling Green, LLC; Tower Automotive Chicago, LLC; Tower Automotive Finance, Inc.; Tower Automotive Granite City, LLC; Tower Automotive Granite City Services, LLC; Tower Automotive International, Inc.; Tower Automotive International Holdings, Inc.; Tower Automotive Lansing, LLC; Tower Automotive Madison, LLC; Tower Automotive Michigan, LLC; Tower Automotive Milwaukee, LLC; Tower Automotive Plymouth, Inc.; Tower Automotive Products Company, Inc.; Tower Automotive Receivables Company, Inc.; Tower Automotive Services and Technology, LLC; Tower Automotive, s.r.o.; Tower Automotive Technology, Inc.; Tower Automotive Technology Products, Inc.; Tower Automotive Tool, LLC; Tower Services, Inc.; and Trylon Corporation.
- 55. "Debtors in Possession" means, collectively, the Debtors, as debtors in possession in these Chapter 11 Cases.
- 56. "DIP Agent" means JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., in its capacity as agent for the DIP Lenders, and any successor agent therefore appointed pursuant to the DIP Loan Credit Agreement.

- 57. "DIP Arranger" means J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., in its capacity as sole lead arranger and sole bookrunner under the DIP Loan Credit Agreement.
- 58. "DIP Facility" means that certain \$725 million debtor in possession credit facility entered into pursuant to the DIP Loan Credit Agreement and approved by the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to the Final DIP Order comprised of the DIP Revolver and DIP Term Loan.
- 59. "DIP Facility Claims" means the total amount outstanding (exclusive of reserves against revolving facilities for outstanding letters of credit) under the DIP Facility as of the Effective Date.
- 60. "DIP Lenders" means, collectively, those financial institutions party to the DIP Loan Credit Agreement and all permitted assigns, transferees and successors in interest thereto.
- 61. "DIP Loan Credit Agreement" means that certain Revolving Credit, Term Loan and Guaranty Agreement, dated February 2, 2005, among the Debtors, the DIP Lenders, the DIP Arranger and the DIP Agent, as amended, supplemented or modified from time to time.
- 62. "DIP Revolver" means that certain \$300 million revolving credit facility component of the DIP Facility.
- 63. "DIP Term Loan" means that \$425 million term loan component of the DIP Facility, used by the Debtors to repay, in full, certain prepetition first-lien indebtedness.
- 64. "Disclosure Statement" means the Disclosure Statement for the First Amended Debtors' Joint Plan of Reorganization Under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code dated June 6, 2007, as amended, supplemented, or modified from time to time, including all exhibits and schedules thereto and referenced therein that relate to the Plan, that is prepared and distributed in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rules, and any other applicable law.
- 65. "Disclosure Statement Order" means the Order (A) Approving Disclosure Statement, (B) Fixing a Voting Record Date, (C) Approving Solicitation and Voting Procedures with Respect to the Debtors' Chapter 11 Plan, (D) Approving Form of Solicitation Packages and Notices, and (E) Scheduling Certain Dates in Connection Therewith, entered by the Bankruptcy Court on June 5, 2007.
- otherwise been deemed timely Filed under applicable law: (i) a Claim that is listed on a Debtor's Schedules as other than disputed, contingent or unliquidated, but as to which the applicable Debtor or, prior to the Confirmation Date, any other party in interest, has Filed an objection by the Claims Objection Bar Date and such objection has not been withdrawn or denied by a Final Order; or (ii) a Claim that is listed on a Debtor's Schedules as disputed, contingent or unliquidated; or (b) if a proof of Claim or request for payment of an Administrative Claim has been Filed by the applicable Bar Date or has otherwise been deemed timely Filed under applicable law: (i) a Claim for which no corresponding Claim is listed on a Debtor's Schedules; (ii) a Claim for which a corresponding Claim is listed on a Debtor's Schedules as other than disputed, contingent or unliquidated, but the nature or amount of the Claim as asserted in the proof of Claim varies from the nature and amount of such Claim as it is listed on the Schedules; (ii) a Claim for which a corresponding Claim is listed on a Debtor's Schedules as disputed, contingent or unliquidated; (iv) a Claim for which an objection has been Filed by the applicable Debtor or Trust or any other party in interest, by the Claims Objection Bar Date, and such objection has not been withdrawn or denied by a Final Order; or (v) a Tort Claim.
- 67. "Disputed Claims Reserve" means a reserve for any distributions to be set aside by the Plan Administrators administering the Trusts on account of Disputed Claims.
- 68. "Distribution Agent" means any Entity or Entities chosen by the Post-Consummation Trust or the Unsecured Creditors Trust, respectively, which entities may include, without limitation, Indenture Trustees, to make or to facilitate distributions required by the Plan.
  - 69. "Distribution Record Date" means the date for determining which Holders of Claims are eligible

to receive distributions hereunder, and shall be the Voting Deadline or such other date as designated in an order of the Bankruptcy Court.

- 70. "Effective Date" means the day that is the first Business Day after the Confirmation Date on which: (a) no stay of the Confirmation Order is in effect; and (b) all conditions specified in Article XII.B of the Plan have been (i) satisfied or (ii) waived pursuant to Article XII.C of the Plan.
  - 71. "Entity" means an entity as defined in section 101(15) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 72. "Equity Interest" means any share of common stock, preferred stock or other instrument evidencing an ownership interest in any of the Debtors, whether or not transferable, and any option, warrant or right, contractual or otherwise, to acquire any such interest in a Debtor that existed immediately prior to the Effective Date, including, but not limited to, any Common Equity Interest and any Preferred Equity Interest.
- 73. "ERISA Settlement Agreement" means that certain settlement agreement attached as an exhibit to the ERISA Settlement Motion.
- 74. "ERISA Settlement Motion" means that certain Motion for an Order Authorizing a Provisional Payment by the Debtors Under Settlement Agreement with ERISA Plaintiffs, filed by the Debtors in the Chapter 11 Cases, located at Bankruptcy Court docket number 1906.
- 75. "Estate" means, as to each Debtor, the estate created for the Debtor in its Chapter 11 Case pursuant to section 541 of the Bankruptcy Code.
  - 76. "Excluded Assets" has the meaning set forth in the Purchase Agreement.
- 77. "Exculpated Parties" means: (a) the Debtors; (b) the Post-Consummation Trust; (c) the Unsecured Creditors Trust; (d) the Debtor Releasees, (e) the Purchaser, (f) the Committee, (g) the Committee Members, (h) the Second Lien Agent, (i) the Second Lien Lenders, (j) the Indenture Trustees and (k) all of the officers, directors, employees, members, managed funds, investment advisors, attorneys, actuaries, financial advisors, accountants, investment bankers, agents, professionals and representatives of each of the foregoing Persons and Entities (whether current or former, and in each case in his, her or its capacity as such); provided, however, that all Non-Released Parties shall be excluded.
  - 78. "Exculpation" means the exculpation provision set forth in Article XIII.D of the Plan.
- 79. "Executory Contract" means a contract to which one or more of the Debtors is a party that is subject to assumption or rejection under section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 80. "Fee Claim" means a Claim under sections 328, 330(a), 331, 363, 503 or 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code for the compensation of a Retained Professional or other Entity for services rendered or expenses incurred in the Chapter 11 Cases. For the avoidance of doubt, the Second Lien Agent's Fees are not considered a Fee Claim and shall be paid in accordance with Article III.B.3 of this Plan.
- 81. "File" or "Filed" means file, filed or filing with the Bankruptcy Court or its authorized designee in these Chapter 11 Cases.
  - 82. *"Final Decree"* means the decree contemplated under Bankruptcy Rule 3022.
- 83. "Final DIP Order" means that certain Corrected Final Order (I) Authorizing Debtors to Obtain Post-Petition Financing Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 105, 361, 362, 364(c)(1), 364(c)(2), 364(c)(3), 364(d)(1), and 364(e) and (B) to Utilize Cash Collateral Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 363, and (II) Granting Adequate Protection to Pre-Petition Secured Parties Pursuant To 11 U.S.C. §§ 361, 362 and 364, entered by the Bankruptcy Court on March 2, 2005, as that order may be amended from time to time.
  - 84. "Final Order" means an order or judgment of the Bankruptcy Court, or other court of competent

jurisdiction with respect to the subject matter, as entered on the docket in any Chapter 11 Case or the docket of any court of competent jurisdiction, that has not been reversed, stayed, modified or amended, and as to which the time to appeal, or seek certiorari or move for a new trial, reargument or rehearing has expired and no appeal or petition for certiorari or other proceedings for a new trial, reargument or rehearing has been timely taken, or as to which any appeal that has been taken or any petition for certiorari that has been timely filed has been withdrawn or resolved by the highest court to which the order or judgment was appealed or from which certiorari was sought or the new trial, reargument or rehearing will have been denied, resulted in no modification of such order or has otherwise been dismissed with prejudice.

- 85. "First Lien Agent" means Silver Point Capital Fund LP, in its capacity as successor administrative agent to Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. for the First Lien Lenders under the Prepetition Credit Agreement.
- 86. *"First Lien Lenders"* means, collectively, the financial institutions that are First Lien Lenders as such term is defined in the Prepetition Credit Agreement and all permitted assigns, transferees and successors-in-interest thereto.
- 87. "General Unsecured Claim" means any Claim against any Debtor that is not a/an (a) Administrative Claim, (b) DIP Facility Claim, (c) Priority Tax Claim, (d) Other Priority Claim, (e) Other Secured Claim, (f) Second Lien Claim, (g) 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claim, (h) 6.75% Trust Preferred Securities Claim, (i) Intercompany Claim, (j) Subordinated Securities Claims or (k) Equity Interest.
  - 88. "Holder" means a Person or Entity holding an Equity Interest or Claim.
- 89. "*Impaired*" means, with respect to any Class of Claims or Equity Interests, any Claims or Equity Interests that are impaired within the meaning of section 1124 of the Bankruptcy Code.
  - 90. "Impaired Claim" means a Claim classified in an Impaired Class.
  - 91. "Impaired Class" means each of Classes 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, as set forth in Article III of the Plan.
- 92. "*Indemnified Parties*" means, collectively, the Debtors and each of their respective current and former members, officers, directors, employees, and partners.
- 93. "Indenture Trustees" means, collectively, HSBC Bank USA, National Association as successor trustee pursuant to the 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Indenture, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as successor trustee pursuant to 6.75% Trust Convertible Subordinated Debenture, Bank of New York, as successor trustee pursuant to the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Indenture, and BNY Midwest Trust Company, as trustee, pursuant to the 12% Senior Note Indenture.
- 94. "Industrial Revenue Bonds" means those certain (a) \$25,000,000 aggregate principal amount City of Bardstown, Kentucky Taxable Variable Rate Demand Industrial Revenue Bonds, Series 1995 (R.J. Tower Corporation Project) and (b) \$20,000,000 aggregate principal amount City of Bardstown, Kentucky Taxable Variable Rate Demand Industrial Revenue Bonds, Series 1994 (R.J. Tower Corporation Project).
- 95. "Intercompany Claims" means any and all Claims and Equity Interests of a Debtor against and in another Debtor.
- 96. "International Holding Company Debtor Claims" means any Allowed Claims against the International Holding Company Debtors, including the R.J. Tower Bondholder Claims.
- 97. "International Holding Company Debtors" means Tower Automotive International, Inc., and Tower Automotive International Holdings, Inc.
- 98. *"International Holding Company Primary Recovery"* means 100% of the Unsecured Creditors Trust International Attributed Value.

# 05-10578-alg Doc 2742 Filed 06/06/07 Entered 06/06/07 18:57:27 Main Document Pg 93 of 101

- 99. "International Holding Company Secondary Recovery" means a Pro Rata share of the Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets.
  - 100. "Interests" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Purchase Agreement.
  - 101. "IRB Claims" means the Debtors' obligations under the Industrial Revenue Bonds.
- 102. "Marketing Protocol" means that certain Marketing Protocol attached as Exhibit A to the Marketing Protocol Order.
- 103. "Marketing Protocol Order" means that certain Order: Authorizing Entry into Restructuring Term Sheet with Cerberus Capital Management, L.P. to Acquire Substantially All of the Assets of Tower Automotive; (B) Approving Marketing Protocol; and (C) Approving the Form and Manner of Notices entered by the Bankruptcy Court in the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 104. "Net Sale Proceeds" means the Sale Proceeds remaining after (a) funding the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets including any overbid amount and (b) paying any Allowed Claims pursuant to the terms of the Plan on the Effective Date.
  - 105. "Non-Released Parties" means those Persons listed in the Plan Supplement.
- 106. "Ordinary Course Professionals Order" means that certain Order Authorizing the Debtors to Employ and Compensate Certain Professionals Utilized in the Ordinary Course of the Debtors' Businesses, entered by the Bankruptcy Court on March 16, 2005.
- 107. "Other Actions" means any and all Causes of Action that are not Chapter 5 Claims and that are Excluded Assets.
- 108. "Other Administrative Claims" means any and all Administrative Claims that are not a Working Capital Administrative Claim, including, but not limited to, the non-1114 related settlement payment due to the Milwaukee Unions in the amount of \$3,500,000 as set forth in Article III.G. of that certain Agreement Between the Debtors and the Milwaukee Unions under 11 U.S.C. §§ 1113 and 1114, to the extent such amount is not paid prior to the Effective Date.
- 109. "Other Priority Claim" means any and all Claims accorded priority in right of payment under section 507(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, other than a Priority Tax Claim, Other Administrative Claim or Working Capital Administrative Claim.
- 110. "Other Secured Claim" means the IRB Claims and any and all Secured Claims against the Debtors not specifically described herein, <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that Other Secured Claims shall not include the DIP Facility Claims or Second Lien Claims.
  - 111. "PBGC" means the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.
  - 112. "Pension Plan" means The Tower Automotive Consolidated Pension Plan.
  - 113. "Person" means a person as defined in section 101(41) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 114. "Petition Date" means February 2, 2005, the date on which the Debtors commenced the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 115. "Plan" means the joint plan of reorganization under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, either in present form or as it may be altered, amended, modified or supplemented from time to time in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules or herewith, as the case may be, and the Plan Supplement, which is incorporated herein by reference.

- 116. "*Plan Administrators*" means the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator and the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator.
  - 117. "Plan Objection Deadline" means July 6, 2007, at 4:00 p.m. (ET).
- 118. "Plan Supplement" means the compilation of documents and forms of documents, schedules and exhibits to be filed no later than July 2, 2007, as it may thereafter be altered, amended, modified or supplemented from time to time in accordance with the terms hereof and in accordance with the Bankruptcy Code and the Bankruptcy Rules, comprising, without limitation, the following documents: (a) the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement; (b) a list of the Other Actions; (c) the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement; (d) the list of the Plan Administrators; (e) the then-current Purchase Agreement, including schedules thereto; and (f) the list of Retained Contracts, if any.
- 119. "Post-Consummation Indemnity Account" means a segregated account to be established by the Post-Consummation Trust, containing the Post-Consummation Indemnity Account Assets.
- 120. "Post-Consummation Indemnity Account Assets" means \$2 million payable by Purchaser pursuant to Section 2.1(a)(x) of the Purchase Agreement.
- 121. "*Post-Consummation Trust*" means that certain trust to be created on the Effective Date in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII of the Plan and the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement.
- 122. "Post-Consummation Trust Agreement" means that certain trust agreement, in form and substance satisfactory to the Debtors and the Committee, that, among other things, (a) establishes and governs the Post-Consummation Trust, and (b) describes the powers, duties and responsibilities of the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator and the liquidation and distribution of proceeds of the Post-Consummation Trust Assets.
- 123. "Post-Consummation Trust Assets" means all assets held from time to time by the Post-Consummation Trust, including, but not limited to, the Remaining Assets, which include, but are not limited to, (i) Excluded Assets, (ii) Other Actions, (iii) Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account Assets, (iv) Post-Consummation Indemnity Account Assets, (v) the Retained Professionals Escrow Account, and (vi) the Net Sale Proceeds, provided, however, that the Post-Consummation Trust Assets shall not include any Acquired Assets or the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets, including, without limitation, the Residual Chapter 5 Claims.
- 124. "Post-Consummation Trust Budget" means the budget, in form and substance satisfactory to the Debtors after consultation with the Committee, for Wind-Down Expenses projected to be paid by the Post-Consummation Trust (including, without limitation, Administrative Claims, Other Secured Claims and Priority Claims under the Plan), which budget will be an exhibit to the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement.
- 125. "Post-Consummation Trust Excluded Assets" means any Assets that are Excluded Assets but which are not Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets, which may be identified by the Debtors, in consultation with the Committee, at any time before the Effective Date, to be excluded from the Post-Consummation Trust Assets.
- 126. "Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator" means the Person designated by the Debtors, in consultation with the Committee, identified in the Plan Supplement, and retained as of the Effective Date as the employee or fiduciary responsible for implementing the applicable provisions of the Plan and administering the Post-Consummation Trust in accordance with the Plan and the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement, and any successor appointed in accordance with the Post-Consummation Trust Agreement. As appropriate, references to the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator shall include any Distribution Agent appointed by the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator.
- 127. "Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account" means a segregated account to be established by the Post-Consummation Trust, to be administered by the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator, containing the Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account Assets.
- 128. "Post-Consummation Trust Priority Account Assets" means up to \$70 million subject to the terms of the Purchase Agreement, payable by Purchaser pursuant to, and in accordance with the terms of the Purchase

Agreement.

- 129. "Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets" means all Post-Consummation Trust Assets remaining after all Post-Consummation Trust Senior Claims have been paid in full.
- 130. "Post-Consummation Trust Senior Claims" means, collectively, any and all (a) Other Administrative Claims, (b) Priority Tax Claims, (c) Other Priority Claims, (d) Other Secured Claims and (e) Allowed Professional Compensation.
- 131. "Preferred Equity Interest" means any preferred Equity Interest in a Debtor that existed immediately prior to the Effective Date, including, but not limited to, all issued, unissued, authorized or outstanding shares of preferred stock, together with any warrants, options or legal, contractual or equitable rights to purchase or acquire such interests.
- 132. "Prepetition Credit Agreement" means that certain Credit Agreement, dated as of May 24, 2004 (as amended, supplemented or otherwise modified), among R.J. Tower, the lenders party thereto and the letter of credit issuing bank(s) named therein, and all exhibits, schedules and related agreements, documents and instruments, including, without limitation, (i) that certain Intercreditor Agreement, dated as of May 24, 2004, among R.J. Tower Corporation, Tower Automotive, Inc., Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. and Standard Federal Bank and (ii) that certain Intercompany Subordination Agreement, dated as of May 24, 2004, among the Subordinated Creditors (as defined therein), any other signatories thereto, R.J. Tower Corporation and Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. as administrative agent (each as amended, supplemented and otherwise modified).
- 133. *"Prepetition Letters of Credit"* means the letters of credit issued pursuant to the Prepetition Credit Agreement.
- 134. "Priority Tax Claim" means any and all Claims of a governmental unit of the kind specified in section 507(a)(8) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 135. "Pro Rata" means the proportion that an Allowed Claim in a particular Class bears to the aggregate amount of Allowed Claims in that Class, or the proportion that Allowed Claims in a particular Class bears to the aggregate amount of Allowed Claims in other Classes entitled to share in the same recovery under the Plan.
- 136. "Purchase Agreement" means that certain Asset Purchase Agreement by and among Tower, Inc. and its Debtor affiliates signatories thereto, and TA Acquisition, dated May 1, 2007, attached as Exhibit E to the Disclosure Statement, or such other agreement as may be entered into between the Debtors and the Successful Bidder.
- 137. "Purchaser" means TA Acquisition Company, LLC or such other Entity, or Entities designated by Cerberus Capital Management, L.P., or such other Entity or Entities as may be designated by the Successful Bidder or Successful Bidders at the conclusion of the Auction.
- 138. "Reclamation Claim" shall mean any claim asserted against any of the Debtors purporting to be entitled to priority status pursuant to section 546(c) of the Bankruptcy, whether filed, demanded or stipulated in these Chapter 11 Cases.
- 139. "Releasing Parties" means the DIP Agent, DIP Arranger, DIP Lenders, First Lien Agent, First Lien Lenders, Second Lien Agent, Second Lien Lenders, Committee, Committee Members, Holders of Claims in Voting Classes who vote to accept the Plan, and, to the fullest extent permissible under applicable law, as such may be extended or interpreted subsequent to the Effective Date, Holders of Claims in Voting Classes who reject the Plan or who do not vote to accept the Plan (and each of the foregoing being in its individual capacity as such). The Releasing Parties do not include the Non-Released Parties.
- 140. "Remaining Assets" means all Assets that are Excluded Assets but which are not Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets or Post-Consummation Trust Excluded Assets, and that have not been divested or abandoned by the Debtors as of the Effective Date.

- 141. "Residual Chapter 5 Claims" means all Chapter 5 Claims that are identified on Schedule 1.1(a)(ii) to the Purchase Agreement.
- 142. "Restructuring Transactions" means, collectively, those mergers, consolidations, restructurings, dispositions, liquidations or dissolutions that may be required by Section 5.11 of the Purchase Agreement, or that the Debtors and the Post-Consummation Trust Plan Administrator determine to be necessary or appropriate to effectuate the purpose of the Plan.
- 143. "Retained Contracts" means those executory contracts and/or unexpired leases of the Debtors, if any, that will be assumed and assigned to the Post-Consummation Trust, which Retained Contracts shall be set forth in the Plan Supplement.
- 144. "Retained Professional" means a Person or Entity: (a) employed in these Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to a Final Order in accordance with sections 327 and 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code and to be compensated for services rendered prior to the Effective Date, pursuant to sections 327, 328, 329, 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code; or (b) for which compensation and reimbursement has been allowed by the Bankruptcy Court pursuant to section 503(b)(4) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 145. "Retained Professionals Escrow Account" means a segregated account funded and maintained by the Post-Consummation Trust in the amount of the Accrued Professional Compensation, commencing on the Effective Date, solely for the purpose of paying the Allowed Professional Compensation.
  - 146. "R.J. Tower" means R.J. Tower Corporation, a Debtor, organized as a Michigan corporation.
- 147. "R.J. Tower Bondholder Claims" means the 12% Senior Note Claims and the 9.25% Senior Euro Note Claims.
- 148. "R.J. Tower General Unsecured Claim Primary Recovery" means a Pro Rata share of the Unsecured Creditors Trust R.J. Tower Attributed Value.
- 149. "R.J. Tower General Unsecured Claim Secondary Recovery" means a Pro Rata share of the Post-Consummation Trust Residual Assets.
- 150. "Sale Order" means that certain order of the Bankruptcy Court, substantially in the form and substance of that attached to the Purchase Agreement, approving the Sale Transaction to the Purchaser.
  - 151. "Sale Proceeds" means all proceeds of the Sale Transaction.
- 152. "Sale Transaction" means that certain transaction between the Debtor and the Purchaser as set forth in the Purchase Agreement.
- 153. "Schedules" mean the schedules of assets and liabilities, schedules of Executory Contracts and statements of financial affairs Filed by the Debtors pursuant to section 521 of the Bankruptcy Code and the Official Bankruptcy Forms, as the same may have been amended, modified or supplemented from time to time.
- 154. "Second 1114 Motion" means that certain Motion to Further Modify Retiree Benefits Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1114, to the extent filed by the Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases.
- 155. "Secondary Liability Claim" means a Claim that arises from a Debtor being liable as a guarantor of, or otherwise being jointly, severally or secondarily liable for, any contractual, tort or other obligation of another Debtor, including any Claim based on: (a) guaranties of collection, payment or performance; (b) indemnity bonds, obligations to indemnify or obligations to hold harmless; (c) performance bonds; (d) contingent liabilities arising out of contractual obligations or out of undertakings (including any assignment or other transfer) with respect to leases, operating agreements or other similar obligations made or given by a Debtor relating to the obligations or performance of another Debtor; (e) vicarious liability; (f) liabilities arising out of piercing the corporate veil, alter ego liability or similar legal theories; or (g) any other joint or several liability that any Debtor may have in respect of any obligation that is the basis of a Claim.

- 156. "Second Lien Adjusted Base Claim" means the Second Lien Base Claim minus the Second Lien Collateral Account Final Balance.
- 157. "Second Lien Agent" means Silver Point Capital Fund LP, in its capacity as successor administrative agent to Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc., for the Second Lien Lenders under the Prepetition Credit Agreement.
- 158. "Second Lien Agent's Fees" means the reasonable fees and expenses of the Second Lien Agent, including the Second Lien Professionals' Fees.
- 159. "Second Lien Base Claim" means (i) \$154,225,000.00, which represents the sum of the drawn Second Lien Letters of Credit and the balance of the Second Lien Collateral Account, and (ii) interest, fees and expenses, including, without limitation, the Second Lien Professionals' Fees, as allowed and payable to the Second Lien Agent through and including the Effective Date, pursuant to the Prepetition Credit Agreement and/or paragraph 12 of the Final DIP Order.
  - 160. "Second Lien Claim" means any Claim arising from or based upon the Second Lien Obligations.
- 161. "Second Lien Collateral Account" means any bank account containing Cash which collateralizes the Second Lien Facility, including the Second Lien Deposit Account and the Second Lien Cash Collateral Account (as such terms are defined in the Prepetition Credit Agreement).
- 162. "Second Lien Collateral Account Final Balance" means the Cash balance of the Second Lien Collateral Account on the Effective Date.
- 163. "Second Lien Documents" means all documents and agreements relating to the Second Lien Facility including (i) the Prepetition Credit Agreement; (ii) that certain Second Lien Pledge and Security Agreement, entered into pursuant to the Prepetition Credit Agreement, dated as of May 24, 2004, by and among R.J. Tower as borrower, certain guarantors, various lenders and Standard Federal Bank as collateral agent, as amended, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time and all exhibits, schedules, instruments, security agreements, mortgages, guaranties, intercreditor agreements and other documents executed in connection therewith; (iii) that certain Subsidiary Guaranty among each Restricted Subsidiary (as defined therein) and any other signatories thereto, Tower Automotive, Inc. and Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. as administrative agent, dated May 24, 2004 (as amended supplemented or modified); and (iv) that certain Second Lien Patent Security Agreement, Trademark Security Agreement, Second Lien Foreign Pledge Security Agreement, Second Lien Deposit Account Agreement and Second Lien Cash Collateral Account Agreement and each other Loan Document (as defined in the Prepetition Credit Agreement), each dated May 24, 2004 and each as amended, supplemented and otherwise modified.
- 164. "Second Lien Facility" means that certain \$155 million synthetic letter of credit facility governed by the Second Lien Documents and as more fully described and defined in the Prepetition Credit Agreement.
- 165. "Second Lien Lenders" means, collectively, the financial institutions party to the Second Lien Facility, and all permitted assigns, transferees and successors in interest thereto.
- 166. "Second Lien Obligations" means all obligations, liabilities and indebtedness of every nature of each of the Debtors arising under or in connection with the Second Lien Facility or any of the Second Lien Documents, including the principal amount of all debts, claims and indebtedness, accrued and unpaid interest and all fees (including success fees), costs and expenses, whether primary, secondary, direct, contingent, fixed or otherwise, heretofore, now and/or from time to time hereafter owing, due or payable, including, without limitation, all interest, fees, costs and expenses accrued or incurred after the Petition Date, including, without limitation, the Second Lien Agent's Fees, any interest, fee and expense payable pursuant to the Prepetition Credit Agreement and the Final DIP Order and any amounts owing to Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas or Comerica Bank as issuers of the Prepetition Letters of Credit or Standard Federal Bank as collateral agent under the Prepetition Credit Agreement.
- 167. "Second Lien Professionals" means Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP, as legal advisor, and Perella Weinberg Partners, LP as financial advisor to the Second Lien Agent.

- 168. "Second Lien Professionals' Fees" means the reasonable fees and expenses of (i) Perella Weinberg Partners, LP, as successor to Kramer Capital Partners, as provided for in that certain Engagement Letter dated November 7, 2005 between Kramer Capital Partners and Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP as counsel to the Second Lien Agent, as amended from time to time, (ii) Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP, and (iii) legal counsel for Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas or Comerica Bank as issuers of the Prepetition Letters of Credit or Standard Federal Bank as collateral agent under the Prepetition Credit Agreement.
- 169. "Secured Claims" means: (a) Claims that are secured by a lien on property in which the Estates have an interest, which liens are valid, perfected and enforceable under applicable law or by reason of a Final Order, or that are subject to setoff under section 553 of the Bankruptcy Code, to the extent of the value of the Creditor's interest in the Estates' interest in such property or to the extent of the amount subject to setoff, as applicable, as determined pursuant to sections 506(a) and, if applicable, 1129(b) of the Bankruptcy Code; and (b) Claims which are Allowed under the Plan as a Secured Claim.
- 170. "Securities Litigation" means that certain securities fraud class action filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, entitled, In re Tower Automotive Securities Litigation, Case number 1:05-cv-01926(RSW).
- 171. "Subordinated Securities Claims" means Claims of the type described in, and subject to subordination under, section 510(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, including any and all Claims whatsoever, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, suspected or unsuspected, currently existing or hereafter arising, arising from rescission of a purchase or sale of a security of the Debtors or an affiliate of the Debtors, for damages arising from the purchase, sale or holding of such securities, or for reimbursement, indemnification or contribution allowed under section 502 of the Bankruptcy Code on account of such a Claim.
- 172. "Substantive Consolidation Order" means that order of the Bankruptcy Court approving the substantive consolidation provided herein, which order may be included in the Confirmation Order.
- 173. "Substantively Consolidated Debtors" means each of Algoods, USA, Inc.; Tower Automotive Bardstown, Inc.; Tower Automotive Bowling Green, LLC; Tower Automotive Chicago, LLC; Tower Automotive Finance, Inc.; Tower Automotive Granite City, LLC; Tower Automotive Granite City Services, LLC; Tower Automotive International Yorozu Holdings, Inc.; Tower Automotive Lansing, LLC; Tower Automotive Madison, LLC; Tower Automotive Michigan, LLC; Tower Automotive Milwaukee, LLC; Tower Automotive Plymouth, Inc.; Tower Automotive Products Company, Inc.; Tower Automotive Receivables Company, Inc.; Tower Automotive Services and Technology, LLC; Tower Automotive, s.r.o.; Tower Automotive Technology, Inc.; Tower Automotive Technology Products, Inc.; Tower Automotive Tool, LLC; Tower Services, Inc.; and Trylon Corporation.
  - 174. "Successful Bidder" has the meaning set forth in the Marketing Protocol.
  - 175. "Third Party Release" means the release set forth in Article XIII.C of the Plan.
- 176. "Third Party Releasees" means, collectively, the DIP Agent, DIP Arranger, DIP Lenders, First Lien Agent, First Lien Lenders, Second Lien Agent, Second Lien Lenders, Purchaser, Indenture Trustees, Committee, Committee Members, Committee Professionals, and each of their respective current and former members (including *ex officio* members), officers, directors, managed funds, investment advisors, agents, financial advisors, attorneys, employees, partners, Affiliates and representatives (each of the foregoing in its individual capacity as such).
- 177. "Tort Claim" means any Claim that has not been settled, compromised or otherwise resolved that: (a) arises out of allegations of personal injury, wrongful death, property damage, products liability or similar legal theories of recovery; or (b) arises under any federal, state or local statute, rule, regulation or ordinance governing, regulating or relating to protection of human health, safety or the environment.
- 178. "Tower Automotive Capital Trust" means that certain Delaware business trust which (a) issued common securities to Tower, Inc., (b) issued the Trust Preferred Securities, and (c) is the Holder of the 6.75% Trust Convertible Subordinated Debenture.

- 179. "Tower, Inc." means Tower Automotive Inc., a Debtor, organized as a Michigan corporation.
- 180. "Trusts" means, collectively, the Post-Consummation Trust and the Unsecured Creditors Trust.
- 181. "Unexpired Lease" means a lease of non-residential real property to which one or more of the Debtors is a party that is subject to assumption or rejection under section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code.
  - 182. "Unimpaired Claims" means Claims in an Unimpaired Class.
- 183. "Unimpaired Class" means an unimpaired Class within the meaning of section 1124 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 184. "Unsecured Creditors Trust" means that certain trust to be created on the Effective Date in accordance with the provisions of the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement.
- 185. "Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement" means that certain trust agreement, in form and substance satisfactory to the Committee, that, among other things, (a) establishes and governs the Unsecured Creditors Trust, (b) describes the power, duties and responsibilities of the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator and (c) describes the liquidation and distribution of proceeds of Article IX of the Plan and the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets.
- 186. "Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets" means (i) the \$10 million Unsecureds Claim Payment and the \$2 million Unsecureds Funds Payment, each as defined in the Purchase Agreement, that are transferred to the Unsecured Creditor Trust by the Purchaser, (ii) any overbid amount or other consideration provided by the Purchaser or the Successful Bidder pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, including, without limitation, Cash and/or Cash Equivalents (subject to the Marketing Protocol); and (iii) the Residual Chapter 5 Claims.
- 187. "Unsecured Creditors Trust International Attributed Value" means 68% of the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets.
- 188. "Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator" means the Person designated by the Committee, identified in the Plan Supplement, and retained as of the Effective Date, as the employee or fiduciary responsible for implementing the applicable provisions of the Plan and administering the Unsecured Creditors Trust in accordance with the Plan and the Unsecured Creditors Agreement, and any successor appointed in accordance with the Unsecured Creditors Trust Agreement. As appropriate, references to the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator shall include any Distribution Agent appointed by the Unsecured Creditors Trust Plan Administrator.
- 189. "Unsecured Creditors Trust R.J. Tower Attributed Value" means 32% of the Unsecured Creditors Trust Assets.
- 190. "Voting Agent" means Bankruptcy Services, LLC., in its capacity as notice, claims and balloting agent for the Debtors, pursuant to that certain Final Order Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 156(c) and Rules 2002 and 2014(a) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure Authorizing and Approving the Retention of Bankruptcy Services, LLC as Notice, Claims and Balloting Agent to the Debtors and Debtors in Possession, entered by the Bankruptcy Court on February 8, 2005.
  - 191. "Voting Classes" means Classes 4, 5, 6 and 7.
- 192. "Voting Deadline" means July 6, 2007, which is the date by which all Ballots must be received by the Voting Agent in accordance with the Disclosure Statement Order.
  - 193. "Voting Instructions" means the instructions for voting on the Plan that are attached to the Ballots.
- 194. "Working Capital Administrative Claim" means a "Working Capital Obligation" as defined in the Purchase Agreement.

195. "Wind-Down Expenses" means the costs and expenses necessary to administer and perform the contemplated functions of the Post-Consummation Trust in accordance with the Post-Consummation Trust Budget.

#### X. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The Debtors believe the Plan is in the best interests of all creditors and urge the Holders of Claims entitled to vote to accept the Plan and to evidence such acceptance by returning their Ballots so they will be <u>received</u> by the Debtors' Voting Agent no later than **July 6, 2007**. The Committee also urges the Holders of Class 4 International Holding Company Debtor Claims, Class 5 R.J. Tower General Unsecured Claims, Class 6 5.75% Convertible Senior Note Claims and Class 7 Other General Unsecured Claims to vote to accept the Plan and to evidence such acceptance by timely completing and returning their Ballots.

Dated June 6, 2007

## Respectfully submitted,

Tower Automotive, Inc.; Algoods, USA, Inc.; R.J. Tower Corporation; Tower Automotive Bardstown, Inc.; Tower Automotive Bowling Green, LLC; Tower Automotive Chicago, LLC; Tower Automotive Finance, Inc.; Tower Automotive Granite City, LLC; Tower Automotive Granite City Services, LLC; Tower Automotive International, Inc.; Tower Automotive International Holdings, Inc.; Tower Automotive International Yorozu Holdings, Inc.; Tower Automotive Lansing, LLC; Tower Automotive Madison, LLC; Tower Automotive Michigan, LLC; Tower Automotive Milwaukee, LLC; Tower Automotive Plymouth, Inc.; Tower Automotive Products Company, Inc.: Tower Automotive Receivables Company, Inc.; Tower Automotive Services and Technology, LLC; Tower Automotive Technology, Inc.; Tower Automotive Technology Products, Inc.; Tower Automotive Tool, LLC; Tower Services, Inc.; and Trylon Corporation

By: /s/ Kathleen Ligocki

Its: President

Tower Automotive, s.r.o.;

By: /s/ Gerrit Kotterman
Its: Managing Director

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05-10578-alg Doc 2742 Filed 06/06/07 Entered 06/06/07 18:57:27 Main Document Pg 101 of 101

Attorneys for the Debtors and Debtors in Possession